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'REAL POSSIBILITIES' FOR U.S.-USSR ARMS 'COMPROMISE'

LD041730 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 4 Jan 83

["For Businesslike, Honest Approach" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 4 TASS -- "The overwhelming majority of those who are now discussing the new Soviet foreign policy initiatives, believe that Washington ought to give a serious reply to those initiatives," the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes today.

"Animated discussions in most different circles, including circles close to Western governments, are now under way around these initiatives", the newspaper stresses. "Many representatives of the public approached the Governments of the United States, Britain and France -- the Western countries which have nuclear weapons -- insistently calling upon them to constructively respond to the USSR's proposals.

Most of all commented are the Soviet proposals that in Europe there should be no Soviet and American medium-range missiles, confronting each other, at all, and the USSR should retain exactly the same number of such missiles as Britain and France have. The USSR also deems it important to agree on planes-carriers of nuclear weapons, on equal but much lower levels from both sides, than now".

The article runs: "At the recent meetings with journalists in Washington, representatives of the U.S. Administration with stubbornness, worthy of a different application, asserted that allegedly nuclear-missile forces of other Western countries, apart from the United States, have no relation to NATO. Are British submarines with nuclear missiles aboard, for instance, the weapons which are aimed at the United States? Certainly not. British officials do not conceal that they preserve and perfect Britain's submarine fleet, implying exactly our country, and Washington most actively assists London in that." [sentence as received]

Objectively, there are real possibilities for drawing up the necessary compromise agreement at the negotiations on questions of nuclear armaments, now under way between the USSR and the United States...such a compromise is possible on the basis that would not be detrimental to the interests of either of the sides and would lead to a radical reduction of armaments of both sides -- to the great benefit for universal peace and security. This is exactly the aim of the USSR's concrete proposals, and this fact is admitted by all objectively-minded politicians and many newspapers of the world", IZVESTIYA stresses.

FALIN: 'NO LACK OF GOOD WILL' IN ARMS TALKS

LD031140 Hamburg DPA in German 0211 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Zurich, 3 Jan (DPA) -- Valentin Falin, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee's International Information Department, on Sunday voiced a warning against further arms buildup by NATO and affirmed Moscow's willingness to negotiate at the Geneva U.S.-Soviet disarmament talks. The Soviet Union intends to go as far as possible to achieve an agreement with the United States, he said.

In an interview for German-Swiss television, Falin accused the West of striving for zero-option only for the Soviet Union but not for the West itself. All data concerning Soviet armament given by the Western side were "incorrect".

Falin, a former ambassador to the Federal Republic and who is considered to be one of the closest advisers to the Soviet leadership, in reference to a report of the U.S. Defense Department, said that there exists parity in the strategic arms sector between East and West.

"Approximate parity" also exists in the medium-range missile sector. The total number of Soviet missiles has not increased but decreased.

Falin said 1982 was an important year in world events if only because of the Western arms buildup plans. Should this arms buildup take place, he warned, then the situation would hardly become more friendly. The Soviet Union has gone as far as possible to achieve an agreement with the Americans, Falin said in conclusion. In reference to the resumption of U.S.-Soviet talks in Geneva at the end of January, he said "there will be no lack of good will on our part in the coming months."

KENNAN CITED ON U.S., USSR ARMS POLICIES

LD042210 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1805 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 4 Jan (TASS) -- It is certainly not the Soviet Union which is to blame for the fact that the nuclear arms race is acquiring an increasingly threatening scale and that no real advance can yet be observed on the road toward removing the danger of a global catastrophe. Such is the opinion of George Kennan, an eminent American historian and former U.S. ambassador to the USSR.

Speaking on a program of the PBS company, he pointed out that it is the position of the West, and primarily that of the United States, which is characterized by a lack of constructive initiatives capable of averting the threat of nuclear conflagration. "Time doesn't wait. Mankind is literarlly balancing on a razor's edge. Measures must be taken without delay. But there are no initiatives from the West and that worries me particularly," George Kennan stressed.

He expressed deep concern over the fact that the United States had not followed the example of the Soviet Union, which "publicly and unilaterally adopted a pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. This pledge is a serious, responsible action, and all the evidence points to the Soviet Union indeed having the intention to uphold it firmly."

In the ruling circles of the United States, however, both this and other Soviet initiatives are interpreted otherwise, George Kennan continued. Using oversimplified notions of the USSR, notions which ought to have been jettisoned long ago, Washington is trying to ascribe to the Soviet leaders some kind of secret motives, to accuse them almost of lacking humanity, of extremism. Such an approach can scarcely be considered productive and useful. For, as a result, we have embarked upon a path of confrontation, which in recent years has led to a dangerous aggravation of international tension.

Rejecting categorically the attempts of the United States and its NATO allies to make out that the Soviet Union, in putting forward its peace initiatives, is resorting to "propaganda maneuvers," George Kennan expressed the conviction that the USSR is sincerely interested in the reduction of tension and that it resolutely opposes the use of nuclear weapons.

George Kennan rejected assertions about any "lagging behind" by the United States in the military field. Such assertions, particularly those which deal with comparisons of arsenals of conventional types of weapons, are nothing other than blatant exaggeration, he said.

The experience of the past testifies irrefutably to the fact that the publication of various kinds of frightening statistics is needed by the Governments of the United States and other countries in NATO in order to achieve even greater allocations for military purposes from their parliaments," George Kennan noted.

But in building up their military budgets, George Kennan pointed out further, the countries of the West forget that national security is not measures only in terms of arms stocks. What is the sense in defending oneself against "external forces" if we are incapable of defending outselves against ourselves, he stressed.

And he noted that a direct result of the unbridled arms race has been a deepening of economic and social problems, of problems of unemployment, crime and industrial depression.

Touching upon a number of other problems of the international situation, George Kennan spoke in support of the idea of creating nuclear free zones in north and central Europe. He rejected as extremely dangerous the doctrine of "limited" nuclear war, stating that the use of nuclear weapons in Europe would inevitably lead to global catastrophe.

A. HARRIMAN ON NEED FOR PROGRESS IN ARMS TALKS

LD021736 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] New York January 2 TASS -- Averell Harriman, a prominent U.S. political figure, former ambassador of the United States to the Soviet Union, has urged the U.S. Administration to direct its efforts towards achieving real progress at the negotiations with the USSR on limiting the nuclear arms race. In an article published by THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper he stresses that the administration should not miss the opportunity which is being given to it by the Soviet leadership. He writes that, according to his deep conviction, the leaders of the Soviet Union are seriously concerned over a nuclear war danger and strive to do everything to avoid it. Soviet people very well remember what hardships the latest war caused to their country and do not want a recurrence of the horrors of that war. Averell Harriman points out that success at the negotiations on limiting nuclear arms is essential for putting a stop to the arms race which is increasingly getting out of control, and in order to prevent the emergence of new types of armaments such as cruise missiles, which make the reaching of agreement between the USA and the USSR still more difficult.

The author emphasises that already now the Soviet-U.S. negotiations concerning the nuclear potentials of the two countries are connected with many difficulties and problems. However, if the USA is really interested in the progress of the negotiations, they should use every opportunity to work out together with the USSR an agreement acceptable to both sides. Mr Harriman points out, in particular, that the Reagan administration could attentively study the latest Soviet proposals, put forward in December last year, on reducing nuclear arms. For example, the strategic reduction proposed by Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov would undoubtedly become an important step to subsequent larger reductions of the strategic nuclear arsenals of the two countries. The U.S. Administration, by refusing to show flexibility and to change its stand, simply makes it impossible to reach agreement on this important matter.

Averell Harriman writes that any use of nuclear weapons is madness. One should not forget that the risk of a nuclear conflict, possibly an accidental one, is too great. The only way to the removal of the risk and prevention of the ruin of mankind lies through serious negotiations between the USA and the USSR with a view to concluding a treaty in the field of nuclear arms control.

U.S. COMMENTATOR DISTORTS DISARMAMENT ISSUES

LD031744 Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 3 TASS -- TASS military analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Summarising before millions of American television viewers the essence of the sides' positions at the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting and reducing strategic armaments, commentator of the NBC network Marvin Kalb claimed that the United States wanted the strategic arsenals to be reduced by one third, whereas the Soviet Union would like to have them reduced by a quarter.

It is difficult to say whether Marvin Kalb did this deliberately or owing to his lack of knowledge, but having resorted to simplification, he seriously distorted the essence of the differences between the sides' approaches to the problems of strategic armaments.

The Soviet Union really proposed that the nubmer of the delivery vehicles of all the three componenets of the strategic forces of both sides -- the land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM's), the submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM's) and the heavy bombers -- should be reduced by approximately a quarter down to the equal aggregate levels of 1,800 units.

The United States proposes at the first stage reductions by one third not in the sides' strategic arsenals, as Marvin Kalb asserted, but in the number of warheads only in the sea- and land-based strategic missiles.

Washington's proposal does not provide at the first stage for any cuts in the number of cruise missiles or heavy bombers, that is those systems in which the United States now has a considerable advantage.

Because of differences in the existing structures of the sides' strategic forces -- the USSR has most of its strategic payload concentrated in the land-based ballistic missiles, while the United States in the bombers and sea-based missiles -- the implementation of the U.S. proposals would mean that the USSR would have to reduce twice more ballistic missiles than the United States. As a result, the Pentagon would have about 1,400 and the USSR less than 1,000 strategic delivery vehicles. As regards the number of nuclear warheads, the United States would gain a nearly three-fold advantage.

The Soviet side would have to dismantle 90 percent of its ICBM's, forming the backbone of the USSR's strategic defensive capability, while the United States would get the possibility of boosting substantially the number of warheads in its ICBM's and continuing to carry out new strategic enhancement programs.

Parity, equality and equal security -- such is the mutually acceptable foundation which can and must underlie agreement on questions of limiting and reducing strategic armaments. It is precisely these principles that are embodied in the Soviet proposals. By contrast, the U.S. proposals pursue the aim of securing the USSR's unilateral disarmament.

Simplifications, to which the NBC commentator resorted, result in the misinformation of the broad circles of the American public as regards the true state of affairs at the talks in Geneva.

'MILLIONS' IN WEST CONDEMN NATO ARMS POLICY

LD031725 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 3 Jan 83

["Millions of Poeple are Involved in This Movement" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 3 TASS -- TASS political commentator Robert Serebrennikov writes: Most West German citizens oppose the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in the territory of the FRG. In a New Year public-opinion poll conducted by the "SINUS" institute in Munich, 61 percent of the polled declared they were against the stationing of Pershing II's and cruise missiles.

Public-opinion surveys reflect the profound concern and anger caused among the public throughout the world, especially in Western Euorpe and the United States, by the U.S. Administration's belligerent and militaristic policy and the unprecedented scope of the war preparations of the United States are the North Atlantic bloc it leads.

In Britain, for example, 59 percent of men and 64 percent of women condemned the siting of U.S. cruise missiles in the British Isles. According to a public-opinion poll conducted by THE NEW YORK TIMES and the CBS television network, 87 percent of Americans favour an immediate freeze on and a subsequent reduction of the nuclear arsenals of the United States and the USSR. In the course of recent municipal elections in Canada, almost 80 percent of the voters went on record in favour of disarmament.

How mendacious appear, against this background, the NATO propaganda theses that the feverish build-up of nuclear-missile armaments and the deployment of nearly 600 American medium-range missiles ostensibly meet the "interests" of Western Europe. Broad sectors of the public become increasingly aware that these plans lead to a heightened military confrontation and that they increase the danger of a nuclear catastrophe.

The mass movement against "limited," "protracted" and other nuclear wars preached by the Pentagon is steadily gaining in scope. The post-war history has not known such a massive public movement against NATO's insane nuclear strategy before. In spring-summer 1982 about 20 million people in capitalist countries took part in major anti-war events alone. Two and a half million inhabitants of Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway expressed themselves as favouring the establishment of a "nuclear-free north."

The main task of all today is to ensure peace and avert war. The anti-war movement is called upon to become a major obstacle in the way of the warmongers.

WEST'S 'ONE-SIDEDNESS' STALEMATE MBFR TALK

LD031528 Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 3 TASS -- TASS commentator Mikhail Stepanov writes:

It will be ten years in 1983 since the start of the Vienna talks on mutual force and arms cuts in central Europe. Twenty eight rounds have been held at the talks so far but no positive results have been achieved, and this cannot but cause disappointment and concern. But what is behind the stalemate?

The whole point is that today, like it was yesterday, the stand of the West does not meet the requirements of reciprocity, is aimed at ensuring unilateral advantages in contravention of the principle of undiminished security of the sides and the rough parity of forces that has taken shape in central Europe. An attempt is made to impose without any sound reason a so-called asymmetry of commitments in NATO's favour on each of the issues examined at the talks, as well as on the general balance of expected agreements. The Western side is trying to substantiate these irrelevant claims by the allegations that the Warsaw Treaty member-countries have more troops, arms and materiel in central Europe.

In direct violation of the agreed mandate of the Vienna talks, the Western side is trying to reduce things only to a cut in the number of ground troops, completely excluding weapons from the process of reductions.

On the issue of a cut in the number of ground troops the Western approach is characterised by inadmissible one-sidedness as far as the volumes and procedures of reductions are concerned. It does not provide for the necessary limitation to the top maximum number of the airforce personnel. The Western package of accompanying measures is unacceptable and detached from realities, the more so if one considers the fact that the West simultaneously does its utmost to narrow practical steps for real disarmament and reducing the level of military activeness. The fact that the West has given its proposals on a non-equivalent, asymmetrical cut in the armed forces of the sides the form of a draft treaty does not change the essence of the matter.

These so-called "fresh proposals" far from contributing to progress, rather hamper the talks.

Progress can be made at the Vienna talks if the representatives of the NATO countries, show, at last, the necessary wish and readiness to reach agreement on a realistic, equitable and mutually acceptable basis. The draft agreement tabled by the socialist countries on February 18, 1982, gives, as before, a key to that and lays a good basis for ending the deadlock at the talks. It contains provisions ensuring the integrity and continuity of the process of reductions from its start and to the attainment of final results. In not permitting any damage to the security of either of the sides, it lays down the basic components necessary for a consistent and just settlement of the problem. As Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stresses, the USSR is for a healthy basis, acceptable to the sides, for the resolution of the most complex problems, above all, certainly, the problem of curbing the arms race of both nuclear and conventional arms.

USSR COUNTERS U.S. ADVENTURISM WITH PEACE POLICY

PM311507 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 25 Dec 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Curbing the Inciters of a New War"]

[Text] During the days of the USSR's 60th jubilee, all honest people on earth are expressing profound gratitude to the land of the soviets, which embodies the ideals of social justice, peace and friendship among the peoples. The world public's attention is centered on the report delivered by comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the celebration meeting in Moscow and the USSR Supreme Soviet and CPSU Central Committee "Appeal to the World's Parliaments, Governments, Political Parties and Peoples."

Never since the war has the question of war and peace been as acute as in our day. The U.S. Administration's policy has complicated the international situation to extreme limits. The war preparations of the United States and the NATO bloc which it heads have assumed an unprecedented, all-time record scale. Official Washington spokesmen are talking openly about their intention to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union and are arguing the possibility of "limited," "protracted" and other kinds of nuclear war.

What is the USSR's position on this question? It is clear. "Nuclear war cannot be allowed -- not a small, big, limited or total nuclear war," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov said. "There is no more important task at this time than to stop the inciters of a new war."

The Soviet Union counters Washington's dangerous and adventurist course with its invariable policy of peace, peaceful coexistence and peaceful solution of disputes. All people of goodwill received with approval and hope the commitment unilaterally adopted by the Soviet Union not be the first to use nuclear weapons. But as yet the United States and the other nuclear powers are not following this example.

One of the main paths leading toward a real reduction in the threat of nuclear war is, of course, the achievement of accord between the USSR and the United States on the limitation and reduction of strategic nuclear arms. In Geneva, the Soviet Union is seeking an honest agreement which would not be detrimental to any of the sides and at the same time would lead to a reduction of nuclear arsenals.

Unfortunately, this is not the United States' approach to the talks. It talks about "radical reductions" but in practice basically has in mind a reduction of only the Soviet strategic potential. But surely nobody can hope that the USSR will agree to unilateral disarmament in the face of the United States and its NATO allies?

The arguments cited by American officials, in particular the assertions concerning a "gap" with the USSR which allegedly needs to be bridged, have long since been exposed as untenable by the American press itself and many prominent politicians in the United States and Western Europe. But the U.S. Administration still clings to them. Moreover, it is going so far as to make ridiculous allegations that the new missiles could "help the success of the disarmament talks." U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger has expressed himself in precisely this vein on several occasions.

Nor is it possible to describe as anything but duplicitous the American position at the talks on so-called medium-range missiles or "Euromissiles."

The Soviet Union has proposed an agreement on the abandonment of all types of nuclear weapons designed to hit targets in Europe -- both medium-range and tactical weapons. But this proposal has come up against a deaf wall of silence. We have also proposed another option: that the USSR and the NATO countries reduce their medium-range weapons by more than two-thirds. But the United States is proposing at the Geneva talks its own "zero option" under which all Soviet medium-range missiles would have to be eliminated while NATO's nuclear potential would be maintained and even increased.

In his report Comrade Yu.V. Andropov advanced a new proposal: The Soviet Union is prepared to maintain in Europe only as many missiles as Britain and France have -- not a single missile more. But this proposal too has been peremptorily rejected by Washington and its NATO yes-men.

Military rivalry is not our choice; socialism's ideal is a world without weapons. We are therefore ready to continue talks with Western countries, but the point of talks must not be to record differences but to pool the efforts of various states to achieve results which are useful to all.

"The U.S. Administration will not succeed in intimidating the USSR by creating 'superprotected' MX strategic missiles and deploying Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe," Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister, stressed in reply to questions from a TASS correspondent. "It should not hypnotize itself with the possibility of achieving military superiority over the USSR. Nothing will come of this. If, in defiance of common sense and flouting the peoples' wish for peace, the present White House leadership issues a challenge to us and embarks on the deployment of the MX missile, the response to this in the Soviet Union will be the deployment of a new ICBM of the same class with characteristics in no way inferior to the MX missile."

We have the means [u nas chem] to respond to the MX, the Pershing II's and the cruise missiles alike.

While assessing the current international situation as extremely complex, at the same time we cannot fail to see that impressive forces advocating peace and peaceful cooperation stand in the way of the aggressive American plans.

Soviet people and the entire progressive world public welcome the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy and condemn Washington's militarist course. The words proclaimed from the rostrum of the Kremlin Palace of Congresses -- "Nuclear war must not be allowed!" -- have already become a combat slogan for millions of peace supporters throughout the world.

Let us hope that reason and a sense of responsibility for the fate of peace, not blind class hatred, will ultimately prevail among Western, including American, politicians.

PAPER CASTIGATES U.S. APPROVAL OF PENTAGON BUDGET

LD240644 Moscow TASS in English 0632 GMT 24 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 24 TASS -- "Washington, gripped by militarist fever, has made another step towards escalating the arms drive", Vitaliy Gan writes in SELSKAYA ZHIZN. "U.S. President Reagan has signed a Congress-approved bill giving the Pentagon in the current financial year a record-high sum of 232 billion dollars."

"Having voted in favour of the escalation of the arms race, Congress backed the Reagan administration's attempts, which are both adventurous and futile, to attain military superiority over the USSR," the commentator stresses. "For the Pentagon programmes of 'updating' the American arsenal are aimed at upsetting the existing strategic balance between the two countries."

"This fact cannot be concealed by any political tricks, including Congress's refusal to grant 988 million dollars for launching the production and deployment of the first batch of MX intercontinental ballistic missiles", the writer points out. "Formally rejecting the administration's request, the legislators allocated at the same time 2.5 billion dollars for continuation of research and design work under the MX programme, including development of experimental models. The question of deploying this first-strike weapon also remains open."

"What the American militarists are doing," Vitaliy Gan concludes, "reminds of a feast during the plague, and the country will have to pay for the feast by new socio-economic upheavals."

COMMENTARY ON MX MISSILE PROGRAM, CONGRESS VOTE

LD280914 Moscow TASS in English 0803 GMT 28 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 28 TASS -- "The hawks are concerned over the fact that in the US . Congress itself public demands for curbing the arms race sound ever more often," "Sergey Vishnevskiy writes in the PRAVDA today, commenting on the decision of the U.S. Congress to reject the administration's request for the production and deployment of the first batch of MX strategic missiles. However, the MX plan has not been scrapped altogether, the commentator notes.

The Congress allocated 2.5 billion dollars to continue research and development about 20 samples of that missile system. If next spring the newly elected Congress approves the basing plan which the government is to submit to it after March 1, the testing of those samples will begin. And then the administration will be able to demand at once additional allocations for the production of MX. The White House continues to cling to that missile system.

"The voting on the MX program, despite all the controversy involved, is indicative in itself," the commentator writes. "According to Washington observers the White House is 'stunned'. White House officials are disturbed: Aren't the times when the U.S. Congress used to grant unconditionally all the requests of the Pentagon passing? What will happen in the coming two years, when, according to a commonly held view, the number of undisguised hawks will decrease in the newly elected Congress? The militarists are disturbed that some of the legislators expressed doubts concerning the White House's stories about Soviet military 'superiority' over the United States and about the new nuclear missiles being 'indispensable' as 'trump cards' at the Geneva talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments."

"Perhaps the results of the November elections are making themselves felt -- during them many millions of Americans came out in favor of freezing nuclear arsenals and conducting honest talks with the Soviet Union," the commentary says.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON 4 JAN WARSAW PACT SESSION

LD041833 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 4 Jan 83

["Meeting of Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Treaty Member-States" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Prague January 4 TASS -- A regular meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states opened here today. The meeting is attended:

From the People's Republic of Bulgaria -- by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov, the head of the delegation; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Grisha Filipov; Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister of National Defence Dobri Dzhurov; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov; Secretaty of the Party Central Committee Dimitur Stanishev;

From the Hungarian People's Republic -- by First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Janos Kadar, the head of the delegation; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Gyorgy Lazar; Secretary of the Party Central Committee Peter Varkoni; member of the Party Central Committee, Defence Minister Lajos Czinege; member of the Party Central Committee, Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja;

From the German Democratic Republic -- by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the Council of State of the GDR Erich Honecker, the head of the delegation; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Willi Stoph; member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Party Central Committee Hermann Axen; member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, Minister of National Defence Hienz Hoffmann: member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Party Central Committee Guenter Mittag; member of the Party Central Committee, Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer;

From the Polish People's Republic -- by First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski, the head of the delegation; member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Party Central Committee Jozef Czyrek; member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski; alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, Deputy Minister of National Defence, Chief of General Staff of the Polish Army Florian Siwicki;

From the Socialist Republic of Romania -- by General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu, the head of the delegation; member of the Political Executive Committee of the Party Central Committee, Prime Minister of the Government Constantin Dascalescu; alternate member of the Political Executive Committee, Secretary of the Party Central Committee Miu Dobrescu; alternate member of the Political Executive Committee of the Party Central Committee, Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei; alternate member of the Political Executive Committee of the Party Central Committee, Minister of National Defence Constantin Olteanu;

From the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics -- by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov, the head of the delegation; member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov; member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko; member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Defence Minister of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov; Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Rusakov;

From the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic -- by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Gustav Husak, the head of the delegation; member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Chairman of the Government Lubomir Strougal; member of the Presidium, Secretary of the Party Central Committee Vasil Bilak; member of the Presidium, Secretary of the Party Central Committee Milos Jakes; member of the party Central Committee, Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek; member of the party Central Committee, Minister of National Defence, Army General Martin Dzur.

The meeting was opened by Gustav Husak who cordially welcomed the delegations of the fraternal countries.

The participants in the meeting observed a minute of silence in memory of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

The first session was chaired by the head of the delegation of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski. The second session was chaired by the head of the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu.

Topical problems of the struggle to avert the danger of a nuclear war, to preserve and consolidate the process of relaxation of international tension, to strengthen security and develop cooperation in Europe are being discussed at the meeting.

The meeting is attended by Commander in Chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty Member-States, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov. Deputy Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Dusan Spacil attends at the meeting to the duties of general secretary of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

PRAVDA STRESSES WARSAW PACT'S POLICY OF PEACE

5 Jan Article

LD050824 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0715 GMT 5 Jan 83

["Course of Peace and Creative Work" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jan (TASS) -- "People of good will are well aware that every conference of the Political Consultative Committee makes a weighty contribution to the struggle for peace," PRAVDA writes today in connection with the latest conference being held in Prague of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. The paper notes that "the general attention being paid to the work of the highest organ of this defense alliance of fraternal countries of Europe responds to the enormous prestige which the socialist community enjoys in the world."

"All those who are not interested in the fate of mankind, who cherish the cause of peace and security of peoples, who are as one with the strugglers for social and national liberation, who are full of resolve to build and not to destroy, wish great success to the work of the conference," the dispatch from Prague stresses.

"The countries of the socialist community," PRAVDA notes, "in counterbalance to the crazy plans of the North Atlantic strategists, are proposing an alternative of peace and detente. It is a search for a just and honorable way out of the international situation that has come about. By deeds and by specific constructive proposals the member-states of the Warsaw Treaty are confirming their unshakeable adherence to peace. The fraternal countries fully share the conviction expressed in the appeal of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the CPSU Central Committee 'to the Parliaments, Governments, Political Parties and Peoples of the World' that by uniting their efforts, states and peoples will be able to conquer the military threat, to maintain and consolidate peace on earth and to ensure man's right to life."

"The socialist countries have no reason to strive for military superiority over anyone. They need peace for creative work and for implementing their large-scale plans of building a new society," the paper concludes.

Biryukov 3 Jan Dispatch

PM051013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Correspondent I. Biryukov dispatch: "Important Event"]

[Text] Prague, 3 Jan -- The first workday of 1983 has been significant for socialist Prague for a special reason: Today the CSSR capital has received distinguished guests from the European socialist countries. They have come here for a conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee.

At the capital's Ruzyne Airport and the main railroad station the dear guests were warmly welcomed by Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, and other Czechoslovak leaders.

It seems deeply symbolic that the beginning of 1983 should have coincided for the socialist community countries with such an important event in international life as a session of the supreme organ of the fraternal states' defensive alliance.

Socialism means creative labor and peaceful skies overhead. From the very first day of the New Year the peoples of the fraternal countries have embarked vigorously on the labor vigil in workshops, at construction projects, in fields and in livestock units. There are millions of them, and it is in their name that the leaders of the fraternal parties and states will confer in Prague.

The Warsaw Pact is an alliance based on the unity of the world outlook, will and objectives of the fraternal peoples and parties. It augments the strength of each of its members to resolve national tasks and increases many times over their aggregate clout and influence throughout the world. For over 25 years now the Warsaw Pact, which lifted cooperation among the socialist countries in the political and military spheres to a new level, has successfully withstood imperialism's threats, countered the schemes of aggressive blocs, and resolutely defended the interests of socialism and peace.

Long practice testifies that Political Consultative Committee conferences yield substantial, positive results. They always attract close attention from the international public. The documents formulated at them help the forces of peace and progress to pick a correct reference point and to determine the strategy of the struggle for lasting peace and the peoples' security.

The constructive approach of the Warsaw Pact States toward the tasks of ensuring reliable peace in Europe and all over the world objectively counters the NATO leaders' policy of fueling war hysteria, Czechoslovakia's RUDE PRAVO writes today. During all previous Political Consultative Committee conferences, the socialist countries' representatives have invariably put forward initiatives aimed at ending the arms race and lessening the confrontation on the European Continent between the two alliances, which differ in their class and political nature.

On the eve of the start of the Political Consultative Committee conference in Prague, the Czechoslovak and the foreign progressive public is making a high assessment of the contribution made by the CPSU and the Soviet state to formulating and implementing the policy of peace. This was demonstrated with the utmost force, the press notes, in the report by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the ceremony in Moscow marking the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Soviet Union, in the adoption by its participants of an appeal "to the Parliaments, Governments, Political Parties and Peoples of the World," and in other foreign policy actions by the USSR.

The fraternal countries unanimously support the Soviet Union's new far-reaching proposals. As for the Czechoslovak side, RUDE PRAVO writes, as is well known, Comrade G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, stated in his New Year speech that the CPCZ and the entire Czechoslovak people will always be faithful allies of the CPSU and the Soviet people in the struggle to overcome the threat of nuclear war and to curb the arms race.

...Everything about Prague in the first days of January suggests tranquillity and love of peace. The Vltava flows smoothly by. The precise production rhythm is even, and people are engaged in resolving matters both large and small. It seems somehow ridiculous even to imagine that there are circles in the United States and NATO that are prepared to risk the fate of Europe and are preparing insane scenarios for "limited" and other nuclear adventures.

But the USSR and its allies warn that they are fully determined not to allow a fateful development of events. A broad response in the world has been prompted by the remark of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee: "...Nuclear war cannot be permitted -- neither small nor large, neither limited nor total. There is now no more important task than to stop the warmongers."

The policy designed to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union has no future. Let people in NATO Headquarters not hope that anyone will be able with impunity to jeopardize the life of the socialist community's peoples. Let people across the ocean not err by taking our love of peace for a lack of vigilance. Let attempts not be made to deceive the masses in the Western countries with fabrications about the imagined "Soviet threat." The socialist countries are proposing the only sensible path of talks and mutually acceptable solutions without detriment to anybody's security -- the path of equal and mutually advantageous cooperation with any state for the good of peace.

The socialist countries are looking confidently to the future for the great truth, mighty strength and wise policy are all on our side. The desire and will of the Warsaw Pact states to ensure lasting peace for the peoples are unshakable.

LATE REPORTS: PRAGUE SESSION ENDS 5 JANUARY

LD051228 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Prague January 5 TASS -- The regular meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states came to a close in Prague today. It was attended by delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, and Czechoslovakia.

The Soviet delegation was headed by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The participants in the meeting discussed major directions of struggle for averting the danger of nuclear war, for keeping and consolidating the process of detente, for strengthening security and for developing cooperation in Europe.

The leaders of the delegations signed a political declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. The declaration is to be published.

TV Coverage

LD051454 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian in its evening Vremya newscast at 1400 GMT on 5 January reports the closing of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference in Prague with the announcer reporting on conference proceedings and on the signing of the political declaration by the leaders of delegations to the conference. The camera provides pan shots of the conference room cutting to pan shots of the Soviet delegation and showing, from left to right, Tikhonov, Andropov, Gromyko, Rusakov and other Soviet delegation members at the rear, with the camera focusing on Andropov signing the declaration on behalf of the USSR.

Andropov Delegation Departs

LD051452 Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Prague January 5 TASS -- The Soviet delegation led by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which attended the regular conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member countries, have left Prague for Moscow today.

PRAVDA VIEWS INTERNATIONAL EVENTS OF 1982

PM041635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jan 83 p 4

["International Review" by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] Tradition of Anxieties and Hopes

The year 1982 has receded into the past, handing on to its successor the tradition of man's anxieties and hopes. It was a complex, fruitful year -- a year marked by the aggravation of the antagonism between the forces of progress and reaction, peace and war; a year when the U.S. President publicly called for a "crusade" against the USSR, that is, for a political, economic and ideological offensive against real socialism. It became even more obvious that the most bellicose groupings whose hatred for socialism and desire for "social revenge" has the upper hand over a sense of reality and sometimes simply over commonsense have become more active in the West.

All records were broken last year for demagoguery and slander in attempts to justify Washington's militarist course and to intimidate the peoples with fabrications about the "Soviet threat." But, despite the propaganda drug, 1982 was a year of insight for millions of people in the capitalist countries.

Calls to dig into the cold war trenches again, attempts to accustom people to the idea of the possibility and acceptability of a "limited" or "protracted" nuclear war -- all this led in no way to the results the White House expected. Its incumbent has really frightened his fellow countrymen and allies. But what has seriously alarmed them is not the bogey of the alleged "Soviet threat", but the Washington administration's irresponsible adventurism, chauvinist militarist course and pursuit of the phantom of military superiority and its imperial ambitions which disregard the realities of the present era.

The bellicose rhetoric has served in a certain sense as a catalyst to a diametrically opposite process. In the United States, West Europe, Japan -- throughout the world -- the past year was marked by the truly unprecedented upsurge of the antiwar, antinuclear movement. It united the broadest social strata -- trade union, women's youth and religious organizations, representatives of the political and business worlds, and figures of science and culture. U.S. history had never known mass demonstrations as imposing as the one staged last summer by the peace champions in New York, just as there had been no precedent for the demonstrations held in a number of West European capitals.

The growing awareness that the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe has become truly a life and death matter for mankind is making itself increasingly apparent not only in the feelings of the public, but also in the positions of official circles. The second UN General Assembly special session on disarmament was a representative antiwar forum in 1982. At the regular 37th UN General Assembly session the U.S. representative found himself isolated on more than 20 occasions by voting "against" or abstaining during the adoption of resolutions on disarmament resolutions which the majority of UN members favored.

Man now stands at a parting of the ways, so to speak. The enemies of peace have not succeeded in discrediting, still less burying detente. The path toward it remains open. But another path leading to the aggravation of tension has still not been fenced off reliably enough.

That is why there is no task of greater importance in international politics now than to avert the mounting threat of nuclear war and to control and halt the arms race. To resolve this task the planet's peace-loving forces must make even more harmonious and coordinated efforts in the year which has started.

The Path to a Nuclear-Free Europe

The year 1983 acquires special significance in the struggle to prevent nuclear war. It is in this year that the bellicose U.S. and NATO circles plan to begin the deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles on the territory of Britain, Italy, the FRG, the Netherlands and Belgium.

A Pentagon plan has recently emerged, first to expand the dimensions of this program designed to alter in the West's favor both the balance of nuclear forces in Europe and the correlation of the USSR and U.S. strategic forces, and second to shorten the timetable for its implementation. In particular, plans are being hatched to double the number of Pershing II missiles and to embark on the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain and Italy as early as next spring.

According to London's THE OBSERVER, the United States has demanded that Britain accelerate the commissining of establishments for basing the U.S. cruise missiles at Greenham Common (Berkshire), and the Thatcher government has agreed to bring this deadline forward to April 1983. In THE OBSERVER's opinion this haste is a form of pressure on the other allies, particularly the FRG. Across the ocean, the newspaper concludes, they are afraid that the demonstrations by members of the antiwar movement will upset the Pentagon schedules.

By accelerating and expanding the program for deploying the new medium-range missiles in Europe, Washington has shown the real worth of its expatiations about NATO"s so-called "twin-track solution," exposing the hypocrisy of allegations that these missiles will only be needed if the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva fail to produce results by the end of 1983. (Washington now prefers to make absolutely no mention of the fact that the West Europeans' agreement to the "twin-track solution" was supposed to be followed by immediate ratification of the SALT II treaty.)

How to break the vicious circle of the stockpiling of nuclear arsenals and embark on their production? This question deeply worries the peace-loving public. That is why the new Soviet initiatives which Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, set forth in the report "60 Years of the USSR" and again explained, on New Year's Eve, in his answers to the questions asked by U.S. political observer J. Kingsbury-Smith have generated such universal interest and such a positive response in the world. These proposals are aimed at achieving just and mutually acceptable accords at the Soviet-U.S. talks underway in Geneva.

For strategic armaments the USSR proposes right now to halt their further buildup by both sides -- that is, to freeze them and then reduce existing arsenals by about 25 percent on each side, bringing them down to equal levels -- and then to advance further toward new reductions.

With respect to nuclear weapons in the European zone, the Soviet side proposes various options -- either having no nuclear weapons -- either medium-range or tactical, belonging to the USSR or the NATO states, there at all, or having both sides reduce their medium-range weapons (missiles and aircraft-carrying nuclear weapons) by over two-thirds. In this case there would be no Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles confronting each other at all, while the USSR would retain only precisely the same number of missiles as Britain and France possess. As for aircraft, the USSR is in favor of total equality at a far lower level than at present. In brief, the Soviet Union does not want to have in the European zone one single more missile or aircraft than the NATO countries have.

The Soviet Union's specific proposals are aimed precisely at finding solutions to questions under discussion which would lead to radical reductions in the armaments of both sides without harming the interests of either. If the United States were to respond to this fair, constructive position by displaying good will itself, that would make 1983 a good year for mankind.

The numerous comments on the Soviet initiatives are pervaded by the idea that the USSR is sincerely seeking an honest agreement. It wants to reduce the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe and increase the level of the European peoples' security.

"The Soviet leaders," the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN writes, "has adopted a realistic and logical posture. This posture creates conditions for serious talks as a result of which a real opportunity of creating a nuclear-free Europe could emerge. This is a sensible starting point for achieving a genuine 'zero option' in Europe in which the interests of the West and of the Soviet Union might perfectly well coincide."

"The refusal to count the French and British missiles at the talks would be tantamount to the West's claim to military superiority," West German Bundestag Deputy H. Scheer notes.

"If the Reagan administration fails to treat the Soviet proposal as a serious and attractive one, it will forfeit a real opportunity to establish control over nuclear armaments in Europe," Prof (R. Almen) writes in THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The idea that the security of some states cannot be reinforced at the expense of the security of others, that the "balance of fear" should give way to a balance of trust is to be heard increasingly clearly in the U.S. press. It is being voiced in particular by former U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance and former National Security Council staff member R. Hunter. "An effective agreement on strategic arms limitation and reduction," they write, "should consider both U.S. nuclear weapons based in Europe and capable of hitting targets on the Soviet Union's territory, and also Soviet weapons which could reach the West European capitals. In turn, in drafting a long-term agreement on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe, the impact of these types of armaments on the overall strategic balance should also be considered."

The new constructive ideas which issued from Moscow on the threshold of the New Year have been greeted with approval and hope by all who are burdened and alarmed by the consequences of Washington's policy of exacerbating East-West confrontation. Understanding of the fact that the Soviet Union has proposed the most radical solution under existing conditions is growing among the world public so that the attitude to it is becoming as it were, a touchstone of the entire U.S. and NATO approach to the problem of limiting nuclear arms in Europe.

Indelible Stain

Last year imperialism once again bared its criminal essence. A massacre comparable only to the crimes of the American interventionists in Indochina was committed on Lebanese soil. The tremendous casualties among the civilian population were not just a tragic accident: Genocide was one of the aims of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon -- that is, the deliberate mass extermination of the Palestinian people.

And once again, as at the time of the Indochina adventure, thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese -- women, children and old men -- found themselves in the role of targets for testing the deadlines of the latest models of weapons stamped "made in the USA" or created with American money. The suffering of besieged Beirut, the mass killings in the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps -- the crimes of the Israeli military shook mankind.

In connection with this flagrant act of aggression no one on the banks of the Potomac has remembered either economic sanctions or a political boycott. They are continuing to generously supply the Israeli expansionists' war machine with combat hardware and dollars. And now, although the occupiers still refuse to go back home, the U.S. Senate has voted to allocate $2.6 billion to Israel in fiscal 1983, even increasing the sum requested by the administration.

Lebanese-Israeli talks began this week with the participation of American representatives. Lebanon agreed to participate in them in order to secure the full withdrawal of Israeli troops from its territory. But the other side regards different aims as paramount in importance: the creation of a buffer zone 45-50 km wide in the south of Lebanon, where the Israeli Army would deploy early warning posts, and the withdrawal from the country of the remaining Palestinian armed formations as well as Syrian troops.

As is known, as early as last summer the UN Security Council adopted Resolutions 508 and 509 demanding the unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanese territory. Why, you might think, start talks on this question 6 months later? But the point is that the insolent aggressors, who are continuing to occupy a sizeable part of the country, regard talks beneath the barrels of Israeli guns as a convenient lever for exerting pressure. They hope to impose on Lebanon a separate "peace treaty" after the Camp David pattern, infringing on the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of this Arab state.

The slaughter in Lebanon was probably the most tragic episode in the annals of last year. It was a direct consequence of Camp David and a graphic embodiment of so-called "strategic cooperation" between Washington and Tel Aviv. The Lebanese tragedy confirmed that the essence of Camp David is a policy of dealing with Arab states one by one, subjecting them to imperialist diktat one after another.

As "payment" for the support given to the aggressor, Washington has secured one more bridgehead for a direct American military presence in the Near East (as is known, the Sinai Peninsula, where the Israeli occupation was essentially replaced by an American one, became the first such bridgehead as a result of Camp David). Reliance on Israel during the deliberate preservation of the hotbed of tension in the Near East -- this is the basis of the U.S. anti-Arab imperialist strategy in this region.

But the intentions of crushing the Arab peoples' national liberation movement and depriving the Palestinians of their national home are, in the final analysis, doomed to failure. They are championing a righteous cause to which the future belongs.

The course of events in general refutes the viewpoint of those who try to suggest to people that force and weapons resolve and always will resolve everything. The peoples are now coming to the forefront of history as never before. They have acquired the right to a voice which no one can silence. They realize that nuclear war -- either small or large, either limited or total -- cannot be allowed. And through their vigorous, purposeful actions they are capable of removing the threat that hangs over mankind and of safeguarding peace and, thus, also life on our planet. All people of good will have embarked on the New Year with such confidence.

U.S. STAND ON LAW OF SEA CONVENTION CRITICIZED

U.S. Monopolies Blamed

LD041630 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 4 TASS -- TASS political observer Vladimir Serov writes:

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar saw Washington's decision not to finance the preparatory commission set up to work out fulfillment conditions for the Convention on the Law of the Sea, as an effort to undermine the efficiency of the international community and to interfere with the exercise of the United Nations functions.

In this connection it is only right to ask the following questions: Why does the United States, ignoring the will of an overwhelming majority of the world's countries as well as the desire of the developing countries for a new international economic order, persist in its attempts to block implementation of the Convention on the Law of the Sea, signed by 119 countries last month?

Why did the Reagan government reject the "charter of the sea", the fruit of nearly nine-year-long efforts by the world community and basically approved by the previous Carter administration?

The reasons for that are evident enough. In the first place, the Reagan government is defending the interests of the American supermonopolies that strive hard for predatory exploitation of ocean wealth, for uncontrolled superprofits from mining minerals under the sea bottom. It all centres on huge deposits of cobalt, copper, nickel, manganese and other minerals, which are quite necessary for the war industry above all. The American monopolies do not wish to share these riches with anybody.

Secondly, the Reagan administration's position on the law of the sea is an extension of the general political concept of this "government of hawks" who have appropriated the "right" to be masters all over the world in total disregard for the legitimate interests of other peoples and states, who have included almost all the world in the sphere of their "vital interests" and claim global hegemony.

People on the banks of the Potomac are apparently forgetting that gone are the "big stick" times when imperialists used the right of the "stronger" to handle world affairs as they wish. No, the world is not what it used to be, and Washington will have to face the fact, like it or not.

U.S. Refusal To Finance Commission

LD311820 Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 31 Dec 82

["Power-Political Devices of Washington" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 31 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The USA again uses power-political devices with regard to the United Nations by refusing to finance the work of a preparatory commission called upon to work out practical conditions for the application of the Law of the Sea Convention. President Ronald Reagan, who is celebrating the New Year in the resort town of Palm Springs in California, announced there on Thursday [30 Dec] a decision to withhold the U.S. share of funding, to the tune of about 700,000 dollars, to finance the commission.

The USA is known to have refused to sign the international Law of the Sea Convention adopted by an overwhelming majority of U.N. member-nations. This important international-law document is of great importance for regulation of international cooperation in the utilization and development of the world ocean expanses and resources for the benefit of the whole of mankind.

Washington tried to deliver virtually an ultimatum to the countries participating in the law of the sea conference, pressing for a change of the convention's agreed-upon text for the benefit of U.S. interests. When the solicitations were rejected, the conduct of the USA manifested its endeavours to place its narrow egoistic interests above those common to all mankind and to prevent the development of equal and mutually beneficial international cooperation. The U.N. General Assembly at the just-ended session passed a resolution welcoming the international Law of the Sea Convention -- this truly world "charter of the seas".

The world community also took a decision on financing a preparatory commission to apply the Law of the Sea Convention. The USA found itself in international isolation.

Washington, however, did not abandon its attempts at torpedoing the international Law of the Sea Convention, combining direct attacks on it with subversive actions on the sly. The sum of less than one million dollars which the USA as a U.N. member was to pay to finance the activities of the preparatory commission, is of course, a small one. But the refusal to do that once again fully manifests Washington's haughtiness and the present U.S. Administration's disrespect for international accords, and attempts at dictating its conditions. Washington, as is seen, considers that any international law is invalid if it does not suit the U.S. military-industrial complex or does not meet the interests of U.S. monopolies. This is the veriest [as received] hegemonism in action.

Melnikov Commentary

PM231431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 82 Second Edition p 5

[Igor Melnikov commentary: "The Charter of the Seas"]

[Text] An important international document, the Law of the Sea Convention, has received its start in life at the concluding session of the UN conference on the law of the sea which has taken place in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Some 119 states put their signatures to it on the very first day. It is noteworthy that never before has such an important international agreement been signed so quickly by such a large number of states. This document will come into force 1 year after it has been ratified by at least 60 countries.

The Law of the Sea Convention is an integral, comprehensive international legal document which regulates the basic issues of man's activities in the world's oceans, and on and beneath the seabed. It is not called the "charter of the seas" by accident for it not only clarifies, develops and codifies the traditional law on the sea but also establishes new concepts which take account of present-day reality. Thus, the convention determines the procedure for exploitation of the seabed and its resources beyond the continental shelf, which are declared to be mankind's common inheritance. The prospecting and development of these resources will be carried out and monitored by an international body for seabed matters created in Montego Bay, whose activities are based on the principles of equality, the inadmissibility of discrimination, and consideration of the interests of states whichever socioeconomic system they may belong to.

The drafting of the convention took almost a decade. A fundamental feature of the document is that its provisions do not encroach on anyone's interests. Naturally, like any compromise, it cannot wholly satisfy all its participants, but, after all, the convention is not a basket of fruit from which everyone is free to choose only what he likes. Yet it is the case that the overwhelming majority of states welcome the convention and consider it an important instrument for strengthening international cooperation and consolidating peace and law and order on the seas.

Only those who seek to pursue a policy of arbitrary rule and diktat in the world's oceans can oppose the adopted document. This is precisely the behavior that Washington, acting on the instructions of U.S. monopolies which intend to exploit the riches of the cean depths for rapacious and selfish ends, has demonstrated at the conference. But since the United States has been unable to destroy the will of the delegates, its representatives have flatly refused to sign the document and have gone to great pains to persuade its closest allies to take a similar step or to bypass the convention by patching together a separate "minitreaty."

However, a feeling of realism and responsibility to mankind prevailed at the forum. The very fact of the rapid signing of the "charter of the seas" by a clear majority of the conference's participants indicates how firmly the ideas of detente and fruitful cooperation have lodged themselves in peoples' consciousness and found reflection in the policy of states.

U.S. Opposition to Document

PM301541 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 51, 17 Dec 82

[Article by I. Gorev: "Law of the Sea: United States Versus the World Community"]

[Text] The UN conference on the law of the sea concluded its many years of work on 10 December. Montego Bay in Jamaica was the venue for the solemn signing of an all-embracing UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and of the conference's final act. Some 119 states appended their signatures to the documents on the day they were opened for signing. They included the USSR, the socialist countries, many developing states and a number of West European countries.

Washington has taken up a position hostile to the convention. In the summer of this year President Reagan announced in advance his refusal to sign the convention. The U.S. delegation confined itself merely to signing the final act. Also indicative is the fact that on the eve of the conference's final session the White House dispatched former Defense Secretary D. Rumsfeld to the capitals of the Western countries with a personal message from the U.S. President demanding "solidarity" with the American position from the Western allies. Under this pressure the Governments of Great Britain, the FRG, Japan and some other Western countries have not yet signed the convention. However, these Western countries are reserving the possibility of doing so in the near future.

What are the reasons for the U.S. Administration's hostile policy toward the UN Law of the Sea Convention?

Resorting to the tactics of delaying the work of the conference, the administration of President Reagan spent all of 1981 "reviewing" the former U.S. line, which was based on acknowledgement of the mutually acceptable compromises enshrined in the convention. At the 11th session of the conference in the spring of this year the United States demanded the radical dismantling of the entire complex of the convention's key accords and provisions governing the exploitation [osvoyeniye] of the resources of the international area of the seabed (nickel, copper, manganese, cobalt and so on) and the establishment of an international seabed agency.

The amendments moved by the United States were aimed at subordinating the activity of the international agency to the interests of the biggest U.S. private companies united in several international consortiums and seeking to seize and carve up the most promising sectors of the seabed. The conference turned down the American amendments and in April adopted a convention supported by the overwhelming majority of countries of the world.

Unfortunately, official Washington has as yet learned little from the complete failure of the line of U.S. diktat at the conference. The White House is in no way able to counter the negative inertia and is continuing its stubborn resistance to the establishment of a global rule of law for the world's oceans. Parallel with its refusal to sign the convention the United States took steps to prepare a minitreaty which would facilitate the division and seizure of the seabed's resources by the imperialist powers in circumvention of the convention.

Thus, on 2 September in Washington the United States, the FRG, Britain and France concluded an agreement "On Interim Measures Regarding the Polymetallic Nodules of the Deepwater Regions of the Seabed."

The agreement set the goal of settling disputes over sectors of the deepwater seabed between the companies of these powers which had submitted claims, in accordance with their internal legislation, to prospect the mineral resources of the coinciding sectors. This agreement constitutes a separate imperialist deal aimed at carving up and seizing a new global source of raw material resources which in accordance with the convention and the decisions of the United States are "the common property of mankind." Such actions contravene the convention and are viewed as illegal by the overwhelming majority of the world's states.

It is no accident that (L. Ratiner), one of the most authoritative U.S. specialists on seabed issues, who participated directly in the convention negotiations, acknowledged the inglorious end of the U.S. anticonvention line and gave notice: As soon as the U.S. allies sign the convention they will refuse to acknowledge Washington's unfounded claims to sectors of the seabed.

Concerning President Reagan's decision to refuse to sign the convention, the journal FORTUNE emphasizes that "this action smacks of farce." "The fact is," FORTUNE remarks, "that the United States was one of the principal initiators of a sea law treaty. Moreover, this treaty in effect provided for everything that the United States itself wanted from it. But by deciding not to sign the treaty the United States will possibly deprive itself of its advantages. In addition, the about-face on the treaty reinforces the international reputation for inconsistency and unreliability which our country already enjoys."

Such voices are becoming louder in the United States. Sooner or later, evidently, Washington must come to its senses. The current "boycott" of the convention is the same sort of brinksmanship "on the border between rashness and stupidity" which America so often demonstrates in other key questions of international life.

The convention is not a normal agreement which some people may ignore or boycott. It represents a global, mutually acceptable "package" settlement of the most acute problems of the world's oceans. For the first time there is being established a rule of law governing the status [rezhim] of all regions of the world's oceans and of the main spheres of the utilization of these regions and the exploitation of their resources -- both protein and mineral resources. The convention does not harm any state and takes into consideration the legitimate interests and rights of all countries and groups of states.

It enshrines the states' rights and obligations when utilizing the world's oceans and defines maritime borders and the limits of national jurisdiction. It codifies the principles and norms of contemporary maritime law and brings it into line with the increased requirements and capabilities of the present level of development of human civilization.

The rule of law established by the convention is also of great significance for the world economy. It takes into account the interests of the developing countries and states belonging to different social systems. The convention ensures the development world navigation and marine scientific research, the exploitation of the animal and mineral resources of the seas and oceans, and activity to protect the marine environment against pollution.

The convention is directed against the policy of the imperialist division and seizure of marine expanses and resources. It creates a solid foundation for the equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation at sea of all states. Such a rule of law in the world's oceans serves the long-term interests of peace and mankind's progressive development.

REAGAN APPOINTS STRATEGIC FORCES COMMISSION

LD040728 Moscow TASS in English 0716 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 4 TASS -- U.S. President Reagan announced on Monday the establishment of a "Commission on the Strategic Forces." According to a presidential statement released here, the commission, consisting of eleven members, will analyse the programme of strategic modernization with special emphasis on the system of ground launched intercontinental ballistic missiles and options for the deployment of the system.

The immediate pretext for the establishment of the commission was the fact that last December the Congress, pressured by the public, "froze" 988 million dollars of appropriations for the production and deployment of the initial force of MX intercontinental ballistic missiles, a new first-strike nuclear weapon. The lawmakers prohibited to spend this money until the Congress approved a basing mode for these missiles. [sentence as received] The "Dense Pack" mode proposed by the administration was strongly criticised by the Congress.

The press points out that the establishment of the "Commission on the Strategic Forces" testifies to the intention of the administration to proceed with its programme for developing, producing and deploying 100 mammoth MX missiles as a part of the overall plan to "modernize" the U.S. strategic forces aimed at tipping rough military parity in the world. The MX programme continues to be carried out because the Congress set aside 2.5 billion dollars on specific research and development work, including the manufacture of test models of the missile.

Congress To Consider MX Report

LD042038 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 4 Jan 83

[From the "World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Excerpts] The 98th U.S. Congress has started work in Washington. The elections for it took place in November last year. These showed that the American voters are dissatisfied with the Reagan administration's policy. Observers are of the opinion that this time, the administration's policy of rash increases in military expenditure at the expense of social needs will meet more serious opposition from the American legislators. The first sign of this was their refusal to allocate funds for the manufacture of the new MX strategic missile. The administration, however, is as before trying to get funds to deploy this missile, declaring that it will review the matter of the basing plan.

The new Congress is to decide this matter after the report by the special presidential Commission on Strategic Forces has been submitted to it. President Reagan announced the formation of this commission today. The head of the White House has appointed well-known hawks to the commission. Scowcroft, former national security affairs adviser to the U.S. President, has become its chairman, with Reed, former U.S. Air Force secretary and today special adviser to the President on national defense affairs, as his deputy. Also on the commission are Haig, former U.S. secretary of state; Brown, former U.S. defense secretary, and Helms, former CIA director. All these has-beens have incessantly advocated the rapid increase of U.S. nuclear missile forces. It is quite obvious that the recommendations of the new commission will be submitted in this spirit.

REACTION TO ANDROPOV PROPOSALS VIEWED

LD312004 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 31 Dec 82

[From the "World Today" program presented by political observer Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] Today the world press and public are focusing attention on the replies of Yuriy Vladmirovich Andropov to the questions of American political observer Joseph Kingsbury-Smith published yesterday evening. Commenting on and analyzing them, many commentators have pointed out the calm, optomistic, some even say benevolent tone of this statement toward the American people, which on the whole fully corresponds to the traditions of Soviet diplomacy and to our generally benevolent attitude toward peoples of different countries. The basis of this world outlook, of this approach to international affairs, was laid by the founder of our state, Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the countinuity of the Leninist traditions and legacy was, is and always will be the main distinguishing mark of our foreign policy.

Political observers, statesmen and ordinary people of various countries in the world reading the replies of Comrade Andropov have something to think about. For example, take notice of this phrase: The Soviet people and Americans have at the moment one common enemy, the threat of war and everything that intensifies it. One cannot help recalling here the numerous statements of the most responsible officials of the American Administration about the Russian and Soviet threat to the United States. The comparison is obvious and indisputable. Washington recently tried to whip up the atmosphere of anxiety and terror and then tried to lay the blame for this atmosphere on the Soviet Union. But our leadership does not sink to petty polemics. It is unequivocally implied in the answers of Comrade Andropov that it is not the American people who are the threat to our people and to the whole world; on the contrary, both we and the Americans have a common threat and common enemy. So, consequently, there is no need to argue and squabble but to discuss together what needs to be done to eliminate this general threat, cure the anxiety and restore both bilateral relations and in international politics generally an atmosphere of mutual understanding and cooperation.

It is not difficult to do this with, of course, the presence of good will from both sides. And there are ways to achieve this. The specific and businesslike Soviet proposals of which Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov again reminded us in his answer to the American journalist could be taken as the basis. So it is now up to the West or, to be mor specific, Washington. Here I would like to recall that just a few days ago in a pre-New Year radio address to the country, President Reagan stated: I want the Russian people to know that the United States is trying to secure accord at the negotiating table on the significant reduction of the existing level of weapons and the establishment of more stable relations between our two countries. Reagan said this, I repeat, while addressing his fellow citizens quite recently.

Meanwhile, however, these declarations have not generally been backed up with specific deeds. And now after the publication of the replies of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, the President of the United States has been granted a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate the sincerity of these words of his.

Further on Reaction

LD042248 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 4 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The leader of the CPSU views the prospects of achieving an agreement between the USSR and the United States on questions of nuclear arms reduction with optimism -- this is the conclusion arrived at by the authors of many commentaries published on the pages of American newspapers. They note that the Soviet Union is hoping that the United States will show good will in response to its just and constructive position.

Will the United States show such good will? This question is being widely discussed in America in connection with the publication of Comrade Andropov's replies to observer Kingsbury-Smith.

The Reagan administration must change its negative approach to problems of curbing the nuclear arms race -- this opinion is of late being expressed ever more frequently in U.S. public and political circles. The report published on the eve of the New Year by the influential Washington research center, the Brookings Institution, confirms this point of view. This report states outright that if the United States starts deploying its new nuclear missile weapons on western European territory, this could deal an irreparable blow to Soviet-American negotiations and open the way to an uncontrolled and uncontrollable nuclear arms race.

Therefore, it is not surprising that the idea expressed by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee about the need to reach mutually acceptable agreements in keeping with the principle of equality and equal security and to adopt practical measures for their realization has made a particularly deep impression on many Americans.

[Begin video recording; speaker identified as Professor Cohen] In my opinion it is particularly important for the Soviet Union to be prepared to reduce the number of its medium-range missiles in Europe to that of Britain and France, provided that the United States refrain from deploying its nuclear weapons on the European Continent. The implementation of this proposal would not only mean the reduction of the nuclear missile arsenals in Europe: Such a step, in the view of the Soviet leader, would serve as the basis for subsequent agreements on disarmament. The Soviet proposals thus represent a good beginning and a very positive initiative and, naturally, we Americans would like to hope that our government will support it. [end video recording]

TASS COMMENTARY ON REAGAN LONG BEACH SPEECH

LD301527 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes: It is well-known that people judge the policy of states and governments by what they actually do rather than by what they say. This axiom comes to mind once again when you are reading U.S. President Reagan's speech at a ceremony in California on the occasion of the commissioning of the battleship New Jersey. Although the occasion, seemingly, was not the one for talking about Washington's "peaceableness" (the commissioning of another big warship can hardly be regarded as anything but another step in escalating the U.S.-led arms race), the President still found it essential to emphasize that the stature of a world power, which the United States had, was not based on raw power.

Such a statement could only be welcomed -- if it corresponded to facts. But facts provide a different picture. We shall not turn to history, which testifies that from 1945 to 1975 alone the United States, according to U.S. data itself, used its armed forces against other states or threatened their use on 215 occasions. But even today the core of Washington's foreign policy remains to be power politics, the striving at any cost to wreck the existing rough parity of forces so that, after getting hold of a sharper and longer nuclear sword, to dictate its will to sovereign countries and peoples. Can there be any other explanation of the fact that the U.S. military budget in one year alone increased by 44 billion dollars and in the 1983 fiscal year will reach an astronomical, unprecedented 263 billion dollars? Can there be any other interpretation of Washington's negative position at the talks in Geneva, the talks which are called upon to block all the possible channels of the strategic arms race and to limit and reduce nuclear armaments in Europe?

Ronald Reagan said that when the Americans took arms in hands, they did that only to defend their freedom and the freedom of other peace-loving states, which needed their help. But whose "freedom", may one ask, did the United States defend during its "dirty war" in Vietnam, through whose crucible three million Americans passed? Whose "freedom" is it defending now, by having unleashed and continuing undeclared war against sovereign Afghanistan, whose people have demonstrated, visually and plainly, their determination to build a new life? What "freedom" did Washington think about when acting as a direct accomplice to the Israeli aggressor, which staged a bloodbath in much-suffering Lebanon? All U.S. actions in the Middle East (and not only in the Middle East, for that matter) are dictated by the desire to ensure "freedom" to aggressors and interventionists, playing the role of U.S.-appointed sheriffs, who are perpetrating crimes with the sole purpose of working up tension, capturing others' lands, and suppressing by force the peoples' aspiration for independence and freedom.

Historians have calculated that in 77 years this century imperialist powers, in the first place the United States, waged aggressions for 62 years on the scale of either the whole world or individual regions and countries. Today as well the world sees how the architects of Washington's imperial policy try, leaning on a "big stick", to impose the ways they like on other countries and regions, from Central America to Asia and the Middle East. Such are the facts. They do not fit in any way the advertised propaganda image of America as a "peaceable" state, which "takes arms in hands only to defend freedom".

FIRST YEARS OF REAGAN ADMINISTRATION REVIEWED

LD050156 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] President Reagan is entering the other half of his tenure in office. In the following commentary our observer Vladimir Kazanskiy looks at what the President has done so far.

It is now clear for everyone that the 2 years of the Republican rule has failed to make peace any securer. In fact it has heightened the threat of war. And the blame falls mainly on the American leader's course of a frenzied arms buildup, the development and deployment of new deadly weapon systems and propaganda war.

In an independent television news interview last November ex-President Jimmy Carter said the bellicose White House statements and ill-conceived pronouncements about a possible nuclear war limited to the European theater had given rise to fear in Europe and the United States, and undoubtedly had seriously alarmed the Soviet Union. Mr Carter was right, of course. We in the Soviet Union have paid a dear price defending peace in World War II, and we cannot but be concerned at hearing speculation on the other side of the Atlantic that nuclear war can be won, and that the United States would have a strategic edge over the Soviet Union. It is this policy that has strained international relations and escalated the nuclear danger.

Still, as the past year has shown Washington has as yet failed to realize the simple truth that it's useless to try to talk to the Soviet Union from a position of strength. And this course of action is absolutely wrong when the problem in question is nuclear weapons.

Each new weapons-system developed in the United States and used as a kind of trump card at the talks has only forced the Soviet Union to take appropriate defense measures and develop similar weapons of its own. The trump card has invariably proved beaten and the language of force has always failed when applied to any other area in dealing with the USSR. A miserable end awaited, for instance, the American pipeline sanctions. The Reagan administration only shot itself in the leg. The Americans suffered losses which amounted to billions of dollars and it harmed the image of the United States as a reliable trading partner. Even West European businessmen who will now probably have to think twice before striking a deal with the Americans. [sentence as heard] Indeed, what if the administration once again sees the American interests at a disadvantage and orders American companies to go back on their contracts?

In a wider context the administration in its pursuit of dubious political benefits poisoned the very climate of international economic cooperation by imposing its sanctions. Washington has likewise failed in its boycott of Poland hence in its attempts to interfere in Polish affairs. The people of socialist Poland are making good progress in coping with their big economic problems. The political situation has appreciably stabilized and the healthy forces of Polish society are forging ahead toward a better future for the people's republic of Poland. These developments throw a very unseemly light on Washington's attempts to stop the normalization and obstruct in every possible way Poland's efforts to resolve the crisis.

Now that the New Year is in many people are of course asking themselves whether United States policy will shift in any way towards realism and responsibility? We in the Soviet Union hope for the better. We believe that the United States [words indistinct] breathe commonsense and statesmanship into its policy and that it will give up confrontation in favor of peace and cooperation.

In his interview on New Year's Eve with the American anaylst Joseph Kingsbury-Smith, Yuriy Andropov, the general secretary of the Communist Party, wished that America too would make a contribution worthy of its status of a great nation, that is, of strengthening peace and friendship between nations.

Commentary was by our observer Vladimir Kazanskiy.

'Utter Failure of Reaganomics'

LD011012 Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 1 TASS -- "The outgoing year was perhaps the worst one in the post-war history of the USA. 12 million officially-registered unemployed!" Tomas Kolesnichenko writes in PRAVDA. "America has not seen anything like this since The Great Depression of the thirties. Before Christmas the number of jobless increased by 1,275,000. There seems to be little hope for the future. The forecasts made by economists are cheerless."

"Over a million Americans saw in Christmas in unheated houses," Kolesnichenko writes. According to the Chicago coalition of citizens on energy, 175,000 houses in the middle west had their power and gas supply cut off on Christmas Eve because of unpaid bills.

"The outgoing year saw the utter failure of 'Reaganomics'," the dispatch says. "Instead of the promised 'balanced budget' the year ended with a record budget deficit of over 110 billion dollars. The outlook for the period ahead is still bleaker. The main reason: the inordinate military expenditures which 'eat up' jobs and lead to the growth of taxes and budget deficit. The newspapers say that in the 1983 fiscal year the budget deficit may top 200 billion dollars!"

"In the closing days of the outgoing year the kind Santa Clauses from the Capitol Hill only scrapped a little the military budget and suggested the biggest ever gift for the Pentagon. Nor did they forget about themselves: Their salaries will now be increased by 9,000 dollars a year. As to the other people, Washington's Santa Clauses brought them a new bitter pill -- a new increase in the petrol tax and hence a new rise in prices."

"Worry about the future, caused by the bellicose policy of the administration, adds its share of gloom to this year's cheerless Christmas and New Year holiday in America," Tomas Kolesnichenko sums up.

TASS SCORES WEINBERGER PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS

LD302306 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1907 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Washington, 30 Dec (TASS) -- U.S. Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger has held a press conference in the Pentagon, at which he tried yet again to justify the course of the Reagan administration toward excessive military spending. The head of the U.S. war department asserted that the conventional and nuclear arms race undertaken by the administration was necessary to "contain" the mythical "Soviet threat" to the United States and its allies. The statements by the secretary himself, however, are proof of precisely the reverse. To judge from Weinberger's words, the Pentagon is actively making types of weapons that are far from defensive; rather, they are openly aggressive. Particular attention is being paid to the program of building the strategic B-1 bombers and Ohio-class nuclear submarines carrying Trident missiles designed, as is known, for use in a nuclear first strike. At the same time the combat readiness of the Armed Forces is being stepped up at a rapid rate. The number of subunits in the U.S. Armed Forces in full combat readiness has increased by 32 percent since January 1981.

The secretary once again stated the need for the Armed Forces to be equipped with the new MX nuclear ICBM's.

Weinberger attempted to prove that military spending was almost a blessing for the U.S. economy. Contrary to well-known facts, he alleged that the U.S. economic situation had considerably improved since the Reagan administration came to power.

The statements by the U.S. secretary of defense graphically demonstrate that the present administration, while hypocritically stating its adherence to peace, has in actual fact no intention of abandoning its dangerous course of militarizing the country and openly preparing for war.

CIA REPORTEDLY BEHIND ANTI-BULGARIA-USSR 'SLANDER'

LD042202 Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS -- "Traces Lead to Langley", under this heading PRAVDA carries an article on the role of U.S. special services in the campaign of slander against Bulgaria and the USSR. The newspaper points out that Turkish neofascist Agca who was found guilty of the attempt on the pope's life made on May 13, 1981 has long since been sentenced to life imprisonment by the Italian court.

"No one but prison warders and officials of the special services of Italy saw him since he had been put behind bars", the article says. He did not appear before journalists. Nevertheless, Agca supplies almost daily to the press ever new falsehoods through certain "semiofficial" channels, and on the basis of those falsehoods almost entire Western propaganda clamours that the weapon for attacking the pope was allegedly provided for Agca by the "Bulgarian secret services". It is on the ground of these so-called "weighty" proofs that Bulgarian citizen S. Antonov was arrested in Rome eighteen months after the attempt on the pope's life and is kept in prison since November last. It is on the same "ground" that it is sought to create the impression in some or other way that the Soviet Union is implicated in the attack on the pope in the Vatican.

"Both Bulgaria and the Soviet Union rejected these absurd accusations with indignation and assessed them in a due way", PRAVDA stresses.

"It is utterly absurd to surmise that there might exist in socialist countries some circles that might have something to do with terroristic acts. This contradicts the policy and ideology of our society", PRAVDA writes.

The newspaper points out that those circles through the fault of which the arms race has assumed of late such a huge scope are not pleased with the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church to matters of war and peace.

Washington exerted a lot of efforts to compel the Vatican to give support to the slogan of the Reagan administration that there are things that are more important than peace... This support was denied. Then the White House made an attempt to "take in hand" American Catholic bishops who described nuclear war amoral. The baiting of Catholic clergymen participating in the struggle for peace and disarmament continues in the United States and other NATO countries to this day.

The newspaper recalls that the declaration on the consequences of use of nuclear weapons that has been prepared by the pontifical academy of sciences says that it is impossible to win nuclear war, that it is fraught with unthinkable calamities for mankind. President Reagan refused to admit that there will be no victors in such a war. This became known after his conversation with representatives of that academy and they noted this with regret.

"The Catholic press then noted that the academy's envoys found more understanding in those whom Reagan describes as 'godless', that is in the Soviet Union, than from the President of the United States. By the way, this evoked a series of new anti-Soviet propaganda actions of the United States aimed specially for undermining the confidence of the believers in the policy of the USSR", the article says. "It is characteristic that the declaration of the pontifical academy was presented to Reagan in December 1981, the very month when it was noticed that the Italian special services linked directly with the CIA established the first contacts with Agca in prison after which he started issuing his 'testimonies'."

"The CIA is operating above all in its secret war against the socialist countries, national liberation movements, communist and workers' parties", PRAVDA stresses. "It is not accidental that the President of the United States, proclaiming his crusade against communism, said in his speech addressing CIA officials in June 1982 that they precisely are assigned the role of the vanguard in that crusade, that it is they who are at the forefront of that struggle. Only a blind person who cannot see the hand of those 'crusaders' from Langley in the present anti-Bulgarian and anti-Soviet slander". [as received]

"Those who, motivated by notorious 'Atlantic solidarity', are prepared to be swayed by misinformers from the CIA apparently learned nothing from history", the newspaper writes in conclusion. "They fail to realize that a dirty snowball of lies and slander that is now rolling over the pages of the Western press will sooner or later melt under the rays of truth and only dirt will remain which will stain for long the political reputation of those who were helping mold that snowball."

ARMY PAPER: CIA PLANTED 'EVIDENCE' OF TOXINS

LD051100 Moscow TASS in English 1044 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS -- Chemical analysis of "material evidence" has completely refuted Washington's allegations about the use of Soviet-made chemical and toxic weapons in Laos, Kampuchea and Afghanistan. The newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, commenting on the results of investigation conducted by a special group of UN experts, writes that the Central Intelligence Agency, trying to escape disgraceful disclosure, resorted to the fabrication of "material evidence". According to the American COVERT ACTION journal, agents were sent into Laos to "plant" evidence of the use of "Soviet chemical weapons".

Besides chemical analysis, the UN experts heard accounts by medical personnel and other officials, since the U.S. Administration, making its fabrications, does not disclose the sources of "information" for quite apparent reasons. One of the few named "eye-witnesses" was a Danish journalist who shot a film about an alleged "chemical attack" (?and) was allegedly exposed himself. The experts met with him and watched him film. They found out that the journalist had no signs of exposure to chemicals, while the film does not prove that toxins were used.

The mendacity of Washington's fabrications was most vividly revealed when the UN experts started interrogation of "victims of chemical attacks," the newspaper stresses.

Here is a characteric example. Many medical cases, presented to the UN experts in Thailand, contained descriptions of a "chemical attack." According to the "documents" more than 80 people died in the "attack." When the experts wished to talk to those who supplied the evidence, only one "eye-witness" came forward. And he claimed he saw only some dead animals. The point at issue, thus, is a large-scale provocation in which American special services used not only perjured witnesses but also falsified medical documents. And this is not all. The report explicitly points out that the investigation was repeatedly hampered by American officials, specifically officers of the U.S. Embassy and Consultate in Pakistan. Writing about the so-called "victims" of a chemical attack, the newspaper states: The group of U.N. experts did not meet a single real, rather than mythical, victim of "Soviet chemical weapons", for the sole reason that such victims do not exist.

TASS REPORTS DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

LD041506 Moscow TASS in English 1317 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 4 TASS -- Walter Mondale, a former United States vice president, has officially registered with the Federal Electoral Commission as seeking Democratic Party nomination for United States president. A similar step has been taken by another Democrat, Reubin Askew, a former Florida state governor. Senators John Glenn, Ernest Hollings and Gary Hart, all Democrats, are preparing to follow suit.

Thus, the official electoral campaign of 1984 has been opened in the United States. From January first representatives of leading political parties, seeking nomination and registered with the Electoral Commission, have the right to receive subsidies for their electoral campaign.

Observers in the American capital note that Republican candidates are not yet known. This is due to the fact that President Reagan has not yet announced whether he will seek election for a second term.

JAPANESE DISCONTENT WITH U.S. DIKTAT GROWING

LD050732 Moscow TASS in English 0700 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Tokyo January 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Zatsepin reports:

The Japanese press points out with growing exasperation about the attempts by the U.S. Administration at dictating to Japan its foreign and home policy.

This policy of diktat accompanied by Washington's direct pressure, as the newspapers point out, is pursued literally in all areas. Quite recently U.S. Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige, the newspaper YOMIURI wrote, demanded that Japan "open wider access into its market for American products", and threatened sanctions against Japan if she disobeyed. A statement in the same vein has been made by Vice President George Bush. U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger insisted that Japan sharply incerase its military spendings by undertaking the defence of a one thousand-mile zone.

The Congress has joined in the campaign against Japan launched by the Reagan administration. Thus, the Senate, the newspaper writes, unanimously adopted a resolution demanding that sovereign Japan should increase its military spendings at a fast rate, and the time by which Japan should abide by this demand was even stated. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a law according to which the Japanese cars imported into the USA must be equipped with American spares, which actually closes access to foreign cars into the market of the USA.

A preplanned offensive against Japan is under way, and the Japanese question has already turned into a purely political problem, YOMIURI writes.

The newspaper points out that this anti-Japanese campaign has been launched in the USA not by accident. Being unable to cope with the economic difficulties, the growth of unemployment, which has reached an unprecedented postwar record high, the Reagan administration is trying to divert discontent gaining in scope in the USA against Japan.

TRADE PROBLEMS AMONG JAPAN, U.S., EEC NOTED

LD301436 Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The volume of Japanese export has dropped substantially for the first time during the past 12 months. This was caused by the further aggravation of trade and economic contradictions between the United States and Japan and between Japan and the Common Market countries. Washington is using tough language with Tokyo demanding a further opening of the Japanese market for American commodities. Having no hope that Japan will "voluntarily restrict" its export to the United States, Washington is erecting one barrier after another and drastically reducing purchases of Japanese goods. The campaign to put new pressure on Japan has been joined by the American Congress and the Department of State, the Department of Commerce and even the United States Embassy in Tokyo. This combined anti-Japanese choir is uttering ever more persistent threats to toughen protectionist measures against the Japanese rival.

Protectionist anti-Japanese sentiments are growing also in countries of the European Economic Community whose deficit in the trade with Japan will amount to about 15 billion dollars this year. In order to take the sting out of the worsening contradictions which, as the TOKYO SHIMBUN wrote today, threaten to undermine the entire system of international trade, the Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe [title as received] is leaving on January 2 on a tour of West European countries.

Somewhat later, in mid-January, the new Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone plans his first visit to the United States. The Japanese head of government and the minister of foreign affairs will bring with them some concrete solutions designed to calm down the rivals-partners. The other day, for instance, the Japanese Cabinet decided to reduce the customs tariffs levied on tobacco and some confectionary products.

This is already the third set of measures to open up the Japanese market. Earlier, customs tariffs were reduced on 200-odd agricultural and manufactured goods imported from the United States and some West European countries. At the same time Japan expanded the import quotas of a number of commodities.

In response to these measures Tokyo demands that Japan's American and West European partners step up struggle against protectionist tendencies. In the recently published "white paper on world trade" the government economic planning agency levelled serious criticism against the United States for "restraining the recovery of world trade" by its credit and monetary policy.

The present contradictions between the United States, Japan and the EEC are contradictions between the three main centres of monopoly capital that are in the grips of an economic crisis and this only intensifies the struggle between them.

SOVIET OFFICIAL ON EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH JAPAN

OW041105 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Numerous events were held last year in the field of friendly exchanges between the USSR and Japan. The third USSR-Japan roundtable conference in Moscow, the gatherings held in various parts of the USSR-Japan [word indistinct], Soviet artists' performances in Japan, and the Soviet painting exhibition were among those events.

We have asked (Kolomak), director of the secretariat of the USSR-Japan Society, to outline plans for USSR-Japan exchanges in the New Year, 1983.

[Begin recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation] To begin with, I want to send my New Year greetings to the Japanese listeners. I wish you health, success and happiness in the New Year, and I expect that through our joint efforts there will be daily positive progress in the development of the relationship between our two countries.

Well, this will become a memorable year for the USSR-Japan Society. We will mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of the society. On that particular occasion, we will invite Japanese guests to attend all-union meetings and other commemorative events.

This year, too, we plan to strengthen cooperation with various Japanese organizations, such as the Japan-USSR Society, the Japan-USSR Friendship Association, the Japan-USSR Exchange Association, the Japan Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and Japan-USSR friendship halls in various parts of Japan.

Speaking of our activities in 1983, we will step up preparations for the fourth USSR-Japan roundtable conference to be held in 1984. Also, we will send USSR-Japan Society delegates to the annual meetings of Japanese friendship organizations.

The eighth symposium on security in Asia to be sponsored by the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries will be an important event. The symposium will be held in Frunze, capital of the Central Asian Kirghiz SSR, in March of this year.

The second USSR-Japan journalists conference will be held in Tokyo this year under the cosponsorship of APN, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and the Japan Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

Exchanges with Japanese religious organizations such as Riss ho Koseikai and the Tenrikyo religious sect will be continued. A conference of Soviet and Japanese religionists on peace will be held in Moscow.

In August, antiwar rallies will be held in Khabarovsk, Bratsk and Irkutsk with former World War II Japanese detainees present.

In addition, a delegation of youths working at the Baikal-Amur, commonly known as BAM, railway construction project will attend a youth festival in Japan, which will be prepared by the Union of the Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the All-Union Komsomol and the Japan-USSR Friendship Association.

Symposiums on energy, radio electronics, literature and other subjects will be held in Japan. In addition, an exhibition on bird and natural conservation and fisheries in the Soviet Union and [words indistinct] will be held.

Days of various SSR's such as day of Moldavia, day of RSFSR, day of Armanian SSR and day of Tadzhik SSR, will be observed in Japan. Japanese and Soviet artists will perform in each other's countries.

I have just scanned the outline of USSR-JAPAN exchange programs at the level of social organizations. I hope that these exchanges will contribute to the just cause of friendship and goodneighborly relations between the peoples of our two countries.

ANTI-U.S. RALLIES HELD IN TWO DRA PROVINCES

LD041210 Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Kabul January 4 TASS -- Mass demonstrations, marches and meetings in support of the recent statement by the Afghan Government are held on these days in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Taking part in the functions are workers and peasants, employees and craftsmen, clergymen and intellectuals, students and traders.

According to reports reaching Kabul, thousands of Afghans took part in a protest march in Asadabad, the centre of the eastern province of Konar. They expressed their wrath and indignation over the attempts by U.S. imperialism to impose its will on the Afghan people. "No to U.S. interference in Afghan affairs", "Long live the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the DRA Revolutionary Government", chanted the marchers.

Representatives of the province's party and state bodies, as well as prominent religious figure Qari Abdul Ghawr, speaking at the rally, demanded an end to the aggressive machinations against revolutionary Afghanistan and expressed readiness to do their utmost to defend the gains of the April Revolution.

The elders and chiefs of several Pashtun tribes, living in the region of Behsud, Nangarhar Province, gathered together to denounce heinous crimes of counter-revolution against working Moslems in Afghanistan. They expressed their readiness to wage armed struggle against the enemies of the April Revolution and do their best to implement the goals and tasks put forward by the party and the revolutionary government.

MOSCOW TV SHOWS SOVIET TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

OW050134 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 0025 GMT on 26 December carries its scheduled weekly "I Serve the Soviet Union" program, which opens with a brief video report on the solemn Kremlin meeting on 21 December devoted to the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR. As the narrator reports that the meeting was greeted by representatives of the Soviet Armed Forces, the video shows troops bearing banners marching down the aisles of the hall to band music. As the meeting is addressed by a major general, Soviet leaders can be seen in the presidium with Andropov, Chernenko, Tikhonov, Pelshe and Ustinov, from left to right, sitting in the front row and other leaders sitting behind them. The video report on the meeting concludes with high-angle shots of the troops marching out of the hall.

A regular feature on the program, "On the Right Flank," follows. It is devoted to the Dvinsk tank regiment of the Red Banner Ural Military District. As the narrator lauds the training achievements of the regiment, the video shows T-62 tanks and other armored vehicles moving over snow-covered terrain. Shots of armored personnel carriers accompanied by motorized rifle troops and more tanks engaged in tactical exercises are shown, following which regiment personnel and the commander, Lieutenant Colonel Yuriy Petrovich Shildin, are interviewed on the regiment's psychological training and personal backgrounds.

The program then introduces its "Our Cinema Hall" feature, which begins with the logo of the USSR Ministry of Defense cinema studio and shots of troops walking and carrying branches with the words "May Friendship and Fraternity Strengthen" appearing on the screen as the title of a documentary. As scenes of street life in an Afghan city are shown, the film's narrator says: "With the victory in Afghanistan of the national democratic revolution, the traditional good-neighborliness with the Soviet Union acquired a qualitatively different nature. Presently our countries are linked with relations of fraternity, solidarity and mutual assistance.

"Thousands of kilometers of major highways have been built, bridges have been erected and modern electric power stations and large irrigation projects have been built in Afghanistan with the assistance of the Soviet Union, and industrial enterprises and agricultural farms as well as gas and petroleum pipelines have been built." Video shows various Soviet aid projects.

"But as has happened repeatedly throughout history, the forces of reaction took up arms against the revolution. The undeclared war which is being waged against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan by the combined forces of internal and foreign reaction has been going on for several years." Video shows troops in camouflage dress undergoing small arms and unarmed combat training. "On the territory of Pakistan and Iran, American instructors are training counterrevolutionaries, bandits of all stripes, who are committing bloody crimes against the peace-loving Afghan people.

"Under these conditions, on the basis of the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship, Good-Neighborliness and Cooperation concluded between Afghanistan and the USSR, and also in accordance with article 51 of the UN Charter on repelling aggression and preser-preserving peace, the Afghan Government approached the Soviet Union with a request for the introduction of a Soviet military contingent onto its territory." Video shows the front page of the 6 December 1978 PRAVDA which carries the USSR-DRA treaty, and then a tent camp of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and troops wearing tropical service uniforms. Video then cuts to show Major L.A. Zhuravlev, identified by a subtitle, in the studio, where the following recorded interview takes place:

[Zhuravlev] "Central Radio and Television, the Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate are receiving letters in which they are asked to describe how our servicemen in the limited contingent of Soviet troops in the DRA are doing. We were very pleased to receive the decision to create a film under the title 'May Friendship and Fraternity Strengthen,' because in this film we could show how that friendship between the Afghan and Soviet peoples, which was founded at the time of the formation of our state and at whose source Vladimir Ilich Lenin stood, is developing and deepening.

"In connection with this it was decided at the cinema studio of the Ministry of Defense to create this film. The creative group was formed under the leadership of producer (Aleksandr Tychkov) and cameraman (Aleksandr Neglovskiy), who are present here. The second cameraman, (Valeriy Resenchev), unfortunately is not present.

[Tychkov] "We work at the military cinema studio, and therefore we often visit our units and we know sufficiently well the life and daily affairs of our soldiers and officers. In Afghanistan the smart appearance of the soldiers and troops somehow struck us immediately, and gave us some kind of lofty feeling, if you will, of internationalist duty. The undeclared war imposed by the forces of imperialism and foreign and internal reaction is continuing. The Afghan people are successfully coping with the difficulties drawing from the assistance of its friends, primarily the Soviet Union. The Soviet servicemen understand this and treat the local population with a kind of friendliness.

[Neglovskiy] "There was a lot of work to be done. We traveled a lot and flew around the country and visited many units and attended meetings between our troops and the local population and between the troops of the two armies, that is the Afghan and our armies. I would like to note the mood, that spark in the eyes of the Afghans which I saw when I was filming large groups of people, in regard to our troops.

[Zhuravlev] "I have here before me on the table the prize for best reportage received for the film 'May Friendship and Fraternity Strengthen' at the third festival of young cinematographers of Moscow where the film was shown and became the laureate. It won first prize for best reportage."

Following the studio interview more scenes from the film show Soviet troops in summer uniforms going over an obstacle course, as the narrator says: "At a difficult time for the Afghan people young Soviet troops came to their aid. They came so that children could study without fear, so that farmers could cultivate the earth and so that peace, tranquillity and justice could establish themselves on the ancient land."

As video shows Soviet troops scaling a hill and armored personnel carriers moving in a column and stopping for a rest break, the narrator continues: "At times it is not easy for the soldiers; the burning sun, the hot desert wind and the steep terrain are unbearable. Here on Afghan soil the remarkable qualities of the Soviet soldier have again been manifested with full force. He is a person with a generous soul and lofty ideals of duty trained by the Communist Party and by the entire socialist way of our life." As troops in helmets and with rifles are shown sitting drinking from flasks and reading PRAVDA and letters, the narrator says: "The further from home the dearer and more native everything linked with it becomes. Every bit of news brings happiness. Mothers and brides and entire collectives write words of sincere gratitude to the youths who are honorably fulfilling their internationalist duty on the land of friendly Afghanistan." Video cuts to show a group of Afghan soldiers marching and shots of Soviet instructors teaching Afghans how to operate the weapons on a tank and Afghan troops firing artillery pieces on a range. The narrator continues: "From day to day the friendship between the Afghan and Soviet troops strengthens. The regular meetings, which have become traditional, and exchanges of experience in combat and political training facilitate the acquisition of the necessary skills and the mastering of modern equipment and weapons." As an airfield is shown with MIG-21's in camouflage paint parked along its runway and cutting to show the control tower and MIG-21's taking off, the narrator says: "The Afghan and Soviet pilots have different call signs but one common concern: a clear sky over the Afghan land." An Afghan air traffic controller is shown, followed by shots of MIG-19's with Afghan markings in flight. A shot of troops engaged in conversation shows a Soviet soldier dressed in the uniform of airborne troops. The narrator continues: "When friends meet, the language barrier disappears. Friendship -- this word requires no translation, it is familiar to every Afghan and Soviet soldier." Soviet troops are shown dancing Central Asian folk dances as other Soviet and Afghan troops look on. The camera then cuts to a group of turbaned Afghan elders sitting in an open-air discussion with a group of officers. As one of the Afghans can be heard speaking, the narrator says: "We understood long ago the truth that the Soviet Union is our friend and we have lived in friendship with our kind neighbor since ancient times. Together we oppose our common enemies. The Soviet Union has always rendered us all-round assistance. Not a single Afghan has suffered any loss or deprivation from Soviet people. Our conscience attests to this." As pastoral scenes of Afghanistan are shown, the narrator continues: "Peace is needed by the nomad and peasants, the trader and worker, and every honest Afghan who wishes prosperity for his homeland aspires to it. Peace is abhorrent only to the enemies of the revolution who attempt to break the strengthening bonds of friendship and all-round cooperation between the Afghan and Soviet peoples." Video cuts to show a column of vehicles climbing a road in hilly terrain. Trucks with machineguns mounted on the cabins can be seen. To the sounds of machinegun fire, the camera cuts to show overturned trucks and scattered cargo alongside a road and soldiers carrying a wounded comrade into a vehicle. The video then cuts to show a man lying in a hospital bed. The narrator identifies the man as Lieutenant (Vladimir Khristopaytis).

Video shows (Khristopaytis) speaking from his hospital bed and cuts back to show columns of trucks in the mountains. (Khristopaytis) says: "Very often I have to accompany columns which are hauling cargo for the DRA. This includes food and construction materials." After more video scenes of destroyed vehicles some of which are being towed away by salvage trucks, (Khristopaytis) continues: "I came under fire together with the column in the Sorubi area and was wounded in the hip." Video cuts to show column of vehicles with armed guards in the cabins and aerial shots of tanker trucks with helicopter escort as the narrator continues: "The armed defense of the conquests of the national democratic revolution is the task of all genuine patriots. But the main brunt in defeating the enemies of the revolution has fallen on the shoulders of the Afghan National Army. Ardent greetings to you, fighters of the revolution, who are going into merciless combat with red banner in hand." The feature concludes with a montage of shots of Afghan troops engaged in various combat activities with tanks, howitzers and light arms.

The program continues with a feature devoted to the 40th anniversary of the battle for the Caucasus in which scenic shots of mountainous regions are interspersed with the recollections of veteran V.I. Tsykapo who participated in the battle.

The following feature, "In Response to Your Letters," introduces the S.M. Kirov Ordzhonikidze Higher Military Command School of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs; video shows the school's cadets marching in a parade and engaged in mountain combat training and includes an address by Major General N.I. Ivanov, the school's commander, who recalls the history and traditions of the school against a background of troops scaling snow-covered mountains.

The concluding "Sport, Sport, Sport" feature introduces participants in the third all-army tourists rally and includes video shots of Colonel B.F. Abramov, deputy chief of the Tourism and Tours Directorate of the Rear Services, who reports to Colonel General P.I. Sysoyev, deputy chief of rear services, on the results of the rally devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR; the report is accompanied by scenic shots of the USSR with Soviet troops participating in tourism activities.

U.S. 'AFRAID' OF INDIA-PAKISTAN NORMALI[illegible]ATION

LD051006 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 5 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS -- "THE WASHINGTON POST's concoction is aimed at nipping in the bud the apparent trend towards normalization of Indo-Pakistani relations," Sergey Bulantsev writes in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA commenting on THE WASHINGTON POST report alleging that India's military leaders developed plans of a bomb strike at Pakistani nuclear facilities. "Indian diplomacy is making earnest efforts to achieve normalisation of relations with Pakistan," the rejoinder says. "The state of their relations always affected the political climate of the whole of southern Asia and adjoining areas. Establishment of trust and goodneighborliness between the two largest nations in the region -- what New Delhi is striving for -- would remove a potential seat of tension. This is what they in Washington do not want, or rather, are afraid of. Why? Such a turn in developments would deprive the United States of its military stronghold in southern Asia."

"At present, seeking to drown in blood the Afghan revolution, the United States has turned Pakistan into the main staging area for waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan and concluded with Islamabad a military-political deal worth 3.2 billion dollars."

"To the clamour about the alleged threat to Pakistan from India and Afghanistan, the Pentagon is seeking to get hold of bases on Pakistani territory to be used, in particular, by gendarme Rapid Deployment Forces," the writer points out.

"The fabrication has one more aim," Sergey Bulantsev writes. "The next non-aligned summit will be held in New Delhi in March. The implication of THE WASHINGTON POST's report is simple: The honour of hosting the summit is given to a country which is preparing aggression against its neighbour. The intention is obvious: to undermine India's prestige on the international arena, first of all among developing countries, and to punish it for its foreign policy course which does not suit Washington."

BRIEFS

NEW DRA MAGAZINE -- Kabul (Ceteka correspondent) -- The first issue of a new illustrated magazine called AFGHANISTAN NAVIN (NEW AFGHANISTAN) was published here Sunday. The first issue is devoted to the 60th anniversary of the birth of the Soviet Union. It includes articles proving good relations and cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. Articles on the visit of Afghan King Amanullah Chan in Moscow proves their long tradition. Under his rule in 1921 a treaty on friendship between Afghanistan and the RSFSR was signed. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2047 GMT 27 Dec 82 LD]

CORRESPONDENTS INTERVIEW KAMPUCHEA'S CHAN SI

LD041454 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Phnom Penh January 4 TASS -- TASS correspondents Boris Kalashnikov and Vladimir Kapralov write:

Thanks to selfless work, guidance by the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union, Vietnam and other socialist countries, the Kampuchean people have succeeded in rehabilitating the country, restoring production and creating conditions for further advancement along the road of building the foundations of socialist society, Chan Si, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, has declared.

He stressed in an interview with the TASS correspondents that restoration of the country was to be started virtually from zero after the defeat of the Pol Pot men. Cities and villages were subjected to barabaric destruction, three million Kampucheans fell victim to genocidal policies.

Irrigation systems were put out of order. Thousands of hectares of land were turned into wasteland. Peasants had neither tools, nor seeds, nor cattle. Pol Pot men plundered practically all provision stores in the country. The threat of hunger was hanging over millions of Kampucheans still alive.

Today, Chan Si said, our country is confident about the future. Crops were planted over 1,800,000 hectares only this agricultural season. This is 200,000 hectares more than last year. Production of natural rubber -- Kampuchea's staple export produce -- is being resumed. Revived hevea plantations now occupy an area of nearly 12,000 hectares.

Along with the restoration of agricultural production, the national industry is also growing. In Phnom Penh alone there are over 60 large factories and hundreds of workshops. Considerable successes were accomplished in the field of education. More than 1.5 million students attend educational establishments.

The results of Kampuchea's development would be far greater if not for the machinations of the hostile forces which, since the first days after the victory of the people's revolution do not stop their provocations against the People's Republic of Kampuchea, trying to re-install the sangiunary Pol Pot clique. In recent time they use for that the so-called "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea". With the help of this "government", the enemies of Kampuchea intend to undermine the growing international prestige of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and allow the Pol Pot butchers to retain the U.N. seat. These are futile attempts, however. No puppets will help international reactionaries to reverse the advancement of the Kampuchean revolution. Processes taking place in the People's Republic of Kampuchea are irreversible, Chan Si stressed.

COMMENTARY MARKS BURMA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

BK041327 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 4 Jan 83

[(Sergey Viktorov) commentary]

[Text] Burma won its place on the political map of the world when it became a sovereign state 35 years ago. The country prescribed friendship and cooperation with all nations as the basic principle of its foreign policy. The Soviet Union, highly appreciative of this policy, became one of the first countries to give recognition to Burma's independence and to establish diplomatic relations.

The Burmese people, marching along the path of independence, have made great advances in the economic and cultural fields over the past 35 years. The successes and progress recorded have been the fruits of the reforms undertaken in accordance with the Burma socialist program. Under the leadership of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP], great social and economic reforms have been undertaken in Burma; interests of foreign monopoly companies robbing the wealth and nautral resources of Burma as well as land owned by feudalists and landlords were nationalized. The state took charge of foreign trade, most of domestic trade, and the oil, petrochemical and energy industry. The state economy has considerably strengthened with 60 percent of the nation's production in the state's hands. The state has recently completed many indsutrial projects, including the Bassein sheet glass factory and the Myaungmya jute mill. In rural areas, producer cooperative societies are becoming stronger.

The Soviet people have goodwill toward and fully understand the desires of the Burmese people in their efforts to promote political and economic independence and the life of the people. In the past 35 years, friendship, mutual understanding and sincerity have dominated Soviet-Burmese relations. This is not surprising, because Soviet-Burmese relations are based on mutual respect, sovereign equality, noninterference in each other's affairs, mutual benefit, mutual assistance in each other's development and mutual desire for world peace and security.

A point that must be mentioned here is that there is no such thing as an issue between the Soviet Union and Burma. For this reason, there is nothing to prevent good relations between the two. In the past 35 years, both the countries have had experiences of bilateral cooperation as well as cooperation in the international arena.

The Soviet Union and Burma have cooperated in irrigation, cotton development and cartographic and technician training projects. The Soviet Union assisted Burma in building Southeast Asia's largest institute -- the Rangoon Institute of Technology, the Inya Lake Hotel and the Sao Sam Tun Hospital in Taunggyi. Bilateral scientific, cultural and sports exchanges have also grown. Exchanges of delegations in recent years also prove the two peoples' interest in each other. The Soviet Union is of the view that extensive mutual cooperation among countries is essential for maintaining lasting peace.

The foreign policy pursued by Burma has a common basic principle with that of the Soviet Union. This is a point greatly appreciated by the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union places much value on Burma's support for its peace initiatives aimed at safeguarding peace and preventing the threat of nuclear war. The 37th UN General Assembly showed that the Soviet Union and Burma have either identical or close views on important world issues. The Burmese delegation, like many other UN member-countries, voted for the Soviet Union's motion calling for an immediate halt to the testing of nuclear weapons. Both the countries firmly believe that through active effort of the people, nuclear war can be prevented and peace -- in other words, perpetuation of life -- can be maintained.

On this auspicious occasion in Burma, the Soviet people, who have goodwill toward the Burmese people, warmly wish them peace, prosperity and development.

COMPARISON OF TASS ON HANOI JOURNAL ARTICLE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 23 December 1982 carries on page 8 a TASS Hanoi dispatch under the heading "Vietnamese Journal on China's Policy." This dispatch has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 27 December 1982 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page E 1 revealing the following variations:

Paragraph three, line one reads in PRAVDA: ...Comparing these unsubstantiated assertions, on the one hand, and irrefutable facts on the... (supplying word "unsubstantiated," rewording);

Paragraph four, line one reads in PRAVDA: ...The assertions made at the... (supplying word "assertions" for "attempts");

Paragraph five, last line reads in PRAVDA: ...by the Taiwan issue. As for the United States, it has adopted a "law on relations with Taiwan" and continues to sell weapons to Taiwan and treat Taiwan as an independent country. The United States evidently believes that China needs it more than it needs China... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph six, line four reads in PRAVDA: ...demands which go beyond the framework of USSR-PRC relations. (supplying indistinct words);

Last paragraph, line four reads in PRAVDA: ...and independent countries. Of course, the Soviet Union, as a genuinely socialist state which has always respected other states' independence and sovereignty, will reject these absurd demands from China. The fact that... (supplying additional passage).

FRANCE SELLS GAS INDUSTRY EQUIPMENT TO USSR

PM041141 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Dec 82 Morning Edition p 8

[TASS report: "Expansion of Cooperation"]

[Text] On 21 December N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, and V.A. Dinkov, USSR minister of gas industry, received Jacques Celerier, president of the French firm Technip. Talks were held on questions of expanding business cooperation and were attended by C. Arnaud, French ambassador to the USSR, and S.V. Chervonenko, USSR ambassador to France.

On the same day a major contract was signed between the Mashinoimport All-Union Foreign Trade Association and the Technip firm providing for the delivery to the Soviet Union of equipment for cleaning and processing highly sulfurous natural gas in the astrakhan gas condensate field.

USSR-FRG ECONOMIC COOPERATION OUTLINED

LD041928 Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 4 TASS -- TASS commentator Sergey Zinchuk writes:

Commercial relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany were on the whole developing successfully in the past year. According to preliminary estimates of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, the volume of Soviet-West German trade over the period increased considerably and will surpass the figures of the previous year. This is shown also by the recently published statistical data on trade between the USSR and the FRG for the first nine months of 1982. As compared with a similar period of 1981 the volume of trade between the two countries increased by over 500 million roubles to reach over 4,900 million roubles. As before, the sides were invariably striving to build their bilateral commercial relations on a balanced, mutually advantageous basis.

Business contacts between over 2,000 West German firms and various Soviet organizations and departments were widening in the past 12 months. They comprised a wide range of the spheres of cooperation, specifically energetics.

Thus, interaction of Soviet and West German partners on the "gas-tubes" project was being implemented successfully: For instance, the "Mannesmann" concern was fulfilling the order to deliver to the USSR 500 thousand tons of large-diametre pipes.

In the past year the Soviet Union widened the list of its goods put on the FRG market. Soviet "Technointogr" for instance, for the first time sold to West Germany a sample consignment of portable tv sets and supplied on the order of the "Graf Strachiwitz GMBH" Soviet-made picture tubes for tv sets.

A mutual trade in licences is an important sphere of Soviet-West German cooperation. In 1982 the Soviet "Licenzintogr" sold to "Seitz Werke GMBH" a licence for the technology of champagnization of wines, and sold to the Krupp concern the technology of flare torgquing of converters used in ferrous metallurgy.

In its turn, the Soviet Union bought from the same concern technical documentation for electric furnances for the Oskol metallurgical complex. Joint development of a number of themes of mutual economic interest for the USSR and the FRG continue in the field of science and technology. Thus, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the firm "Bayer" signed a supplement to the agreement on cooperation in accordance with which the sides intend to pool efforts in studying methods and ways of protecting metals against corrosion.

The USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry and the firm "Thyssen" study the possibilities of cooperation in the development of hydraulic devices for coal-mining equipment.

Soviet-West German commercial and economic cooperation has broad prospects. This is particularly important also for the reason that, as it was stressed in the communique on the results of the eleventh session of the commission of the USSR and the FRG on economic, scientific and technological cooperation that was held in October 1982, business partnership between the two states is a considerable contribution to the implementation of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

PONOMAREV MEETS WITH SAN MARINO COMMUNIST LEADERS

LD041834 Moscow TASS in English 1823 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 4 TASS -- A meeting was held today at the CPSU Central Committee between alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev, and the Chairman of the San Marino Communist Party Ermenegildo Gasperoni and General Secretary of the party Umberto Baruli.

In the course of the meeting the San Marino comrades were briefed on the course of implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the results of the November plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR's struggle against the arms race, for preservation and consolidation of detente, for ensuring a peaceful future of mankind. The San Marino comrades dwelt on the struggle of the San Marino Communist Party for the vital interests of the working people, for peace, democracy and socialism. They highly appreciated the accomplishments of the Soviet people, and emphasized the USSR's decisive contribution to the struggle for peace, social progress of mankind, for consolidation of friendship between nations. Particularly emphasized was the significance of the new constructive proposals of the Soviet Union which were put forward in Yuriy Andropov's report at the celebration meeting devoted to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

The exchange of opinions which was held demonstrated the coincidence of views on questions of the present-day international situation. It was emphasized that the aggressive actions of imperialism, the arms race unleashed by it, lead to a heightening of the danger of war.

Representatives of the CPSU and the San Marino Communist Party expressed the unanimous opinion that the obtaining situation insistently calls for joint actions of all peaceful anti-imperialist forces. They emphasized that unity of the ranks of the world communist movement is now necessary more than ever before in its struggle for the basic human right -- the right to live in conditions of peace.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

ZLATORUNSKIY COMMENTS ON LEBANON TALKS

LD041912 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 4 Jan 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program, written by A. Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] The third meeting between the representatives of Lebanon, Israel and the United States has ended without any results. Once more the parties failed to agree even on the agenda. After 7 hours of deliberations, and after strong pressure from the American envoy, M. Draper, agreement was reached only on another meeting next Thursday.

In fact, it was hard to expect any other result. Israel had agreed to talk to Lebanon for one purpose: namely, to reach a so-called normalization of relations with it -- or, to put it simply, to conclude an agreement with it like that of Camp David. Should that succeed, as was the case with Egypt, Lebanon would become isolated from the Arab world and an easy prey to both Tel Aviv and Washington, which are not concealing the fact that they want to turn the Lebanese territories into a bridgehead for their expansionist policy towards the other Arab states.

The role of the U.S. representative in the talks is more than a feeling. According to the American-Israeli strategic agreement, M. Draper is called upon to back Israel in everything. At the same time, he must also pretend that he is a mediator equally concerned about the interests of Tel Aviv and Beirut.

He is performing this role openly, so much so that it has been decided that Philip Habib, who is well-known to us as the great expert in anti-Arab provocations and the active defender of the interests of the Zionists, is to assist him. As to Lebanon agreeing to direct talks, this was motivated by one thing -- namely, its desire to attain, as soon as possible, the evacuation of the Israeli forces from Lebanon as the first and most important condition for the settlement of the situation in the country.

It must be said that statesmen and public figures in the Arab countries support the Lebanese stance and strongly condemn the American-Israeli attempts to impose a new kind of Camp David on the Lebanese people. In a special statement, the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry pointed out that it totally supports Lebanon's just demand for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces as the principal condition for safeguarding national sovereignty. The same opinion was voiced by the Saudi 'UKAZ and by the UAE AL-WAHDAH.

The Jordanian AD-DUSTUR frankly stated that the Israelis are trying to reap the fruits of their aggression -- the fruits of the destruction that they caused in Lebanon. This is a logical conclusion. We only add that they want to pick these fruits with the active participation of their partner in the strategic cooperation, the United States.

TASS CITES SYRIAN, FRENCH PRESS ON TALKS

LD041312 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Beirut, January 4 TASS -- The third round of talks between Lebanon and Israel with the participation of a U.S. delegation, held in Khaldah, the suburb of Beirut, has ended without bringing any concrete results. The agenda of the talks has again become the stumbling-block, the same as the previous sessions. The Lebanese delegation maintains that the discussion should centre, in the first place, around the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Lebanese territory, while Israel stubbornly imposes upon it the question of the "normalization of the situation," which, in its opinion, should be consolidated by the so-called "peace treaty" between the two countries.

Damascus January 4 TASS -- Commenting on the role played by the U.S. delegation at the talks, the Syrian newspaper ATH-THAWRAH writes that Washington, which disrupted the efforts of the international community to stop the Tel Aviv aggression in Lebanon, is now bringing pressure to bear on the Lebanese authorities forcing them to accept the Israeli terms. The talks are held in conditions of the continuing Israeli occupation and the presence of U.S. troops in that country, ATH-THAWRAH points out. The newspaper stresses that the invaders should leave the Lebanese territory.

The U.S. is trying to use the Lebanese-Israeli talks for stepping up U.S. military presence in the area, another Syrian newspaper AL-BA'TH underlines. Quoting reports coming from the Lebanese capital, the newspaper writes that Americans have actually created a naval base on the coast in the area of the Beirut International Airport.

The newspaper TISHRIN notes in its turn that it is not accidental that the Israelis put forward at the talks the terms which obviously cannot be accepted by the other side. It stresses that the invaders hope to preserve their control over southern Lebanon and, along with trampling underfoot the spiritual and moral values of the Lebanese people, kindle conflicts and undermine the economy of the country.

Paris January 4 TASS -- Israel's demand of the "normalisation" of relations is a component part of Begin's plan which envisages the division of Lebanon, the newspaper L'HUMANITE points out. As for the Reagan administration, which tries to pose as a mediator at the talks, it, in effect, fully supports the policy of the Israeli Government, the newspaper underlines.

RPP VIEWS ISRAEL'S GLOOMY FINANCIAL PROSPECTS

TA050725 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew to Israel 1730 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] The New Year has brought new worries for Finance Minister Yoram Aridor. The government is urgently searching for sums with which the deficit in the state budget may be covered, sums of 28 billion shekels. This deficit in the budget has been created, as is known, as a result of the aggression against Lebanon. The entire Lebanese adventure by the ruling elite has already cost the Israeli nation about $5 billion and now Yoram Aridor urgently needs at least 800 million. [presumably dollars] As always, in similar cases, the ruling circles in Israel rely on their patrons across the ocean and they are looking at [words indistinct] but, this time, as many facts prove, this matter has become most complicated. The press gives evidence of the fact that an appreciable section of the U.S. Jewish community is expressing serious dissatisfaction with the Begin government's policy, particularly the policy of adventures jeopardizing the very existence of the state of Israel. More than a few Jewish organizations are sharply condemning the invasion of Lebanon and the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] barbaric actions on the soil of Lebanon. Similar condemnations have also been heard in speeches at the Zionist congress that met in Jerusalem not long ago. The condemnation is also expressed by the fact that scores of young people from the United States left the congress before its conclusion. In the United States itself, the U.S. publication TIME points out that the Begin government has to a noticable extent lost credibility in U.S. eyes. The heads of such Jewish organizations as B'nai Brith, the U.S. Jewish Committee, the U.S. Jewish Congress, are trying to disassociate themselves from Begin's policy. They are expressing the view that the latest events are forcing the Jewish organizations in the United States to make a more serious study of the relations and commitments between them and the Government of Israel. A witness of the aggression against Lebanon is [Arthur Herzberg], the previous president of the U.S. Jewish Congress, who has severely criticized Begin's policy. In his article, he points out that the U.S. Jews, for the most part, are against Begin and their numbers are increasing.

After the mass murder of the civilian population of Lebanon was learned, the terrible crime in Sabra and Shatila which shocked the entire world and the barbaric destruction in Lebanon, the number of U.S. Jews who condemn the Begin government's policy of foreign affairs and security is increasing. As the paper NEW YORK TIMES points out, other Jewish communities have also begun to criticize this policy of Begin and Sharon. It has become clearer and clearer that Begin's policy has deepened the crisis in Israel and in the Zionist movement. Many, many Jews in the United States, THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, have begun to criticize the government's policy, a policy of suicide contradicting the Zionist vision. In this context, it has become more and more difficult in Israel to solicit donations. In the United States, the heads of the bonds organizations are complaining that they have recently faced the most serious crisis since the war of October 1973. Similar complaints are also expressed by other Jewish organizations and so it will be hard for Aridor now to hope for donations. For the first time in the country's history, the Jewish communities are refusing to support the government's expansionist policy. Criticism of the Israeli policy of aggression and adventurism is increasing both in broad circles in the U.S. community and in the Jewish communities.

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD SENDS CONGRATULATORY CABLE

PM051049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 82 Second Edition p 7

[Text] To Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee:

On behalf of the Arab people of Syria, the leadership of the Ba'th Party and myself, I am happy to send to you, the Soviet leadership and to the friendly Soviet people my most sincere congratulations and warm greetings on the 60th anniversary of the creation of the Soviet state.

The creation of the world's first socialist state was a most important event in the history of the peoples' struggle for freedom and independence and against colonialism and exploitation. In the past 60 years the Soviet state has proved its loyalty to the principles on which it was founded and demonstrated that it is the peoples' prop in their struggle against colonialists and exploiters.

I am also happy to express our great satisfaction with the firm relations that have been established between Syria and the Soviet Union -- relations which have withstood the test of time. I also wish to express confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries will continue to develop for the sake of our peoples on the basis of mutual advantage, in the interests of the causes of peace, justice, freedom and socialism.

I wish to you personally, health and happiness, and to the Soviet people further victories and successes under the CPSU leadership.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and President of Syria

SYRIAN CP LEADER INTERVIEWED BY IZVESTIYA

LD042135 Moscow TASS in English 1933 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, January 4 TASS -- "The peoples of the world, following the lines of freedom and progress, have considered and consider the USSR, the CPSU, as a reliable and true friend", said Khalid Ba'dash, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, in an IZVESTIYA interview. The interview was printed by the newspaper in its today's issue. The goodneighbourly relations between the USSR and Syria, which are deep-rooted in history, have got a fresh impetus when the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation was signed in 1980. The relations between our countries are steadily developing and broadening in all spheres.

Touching upon events in Lebanon, the leader of the Syrian Communist Party points out that "it is impossible to resolve the Middle East problem as American imperialism and Zionism are trying to do -- through the use of the force of arms, through separate Camp David-type deals." He emphasized that Reagan's broadly advertised plan is nothing but the logical continuation of the Camp David deal, just a new attempt of imperialism and Zionism to further their far-reaching aims.

The way proposed by the Soviet Union is the only correct way for solution of the Middle East problem," Baqdash said. "And in substance it coincides with the position of the all-Arab summit conference in Fes...it is necessary to restore the Arab sovereignty over east Jerusalem, to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization and the rights of the Palestinians to haves an independent state of their own. This is our stand and our task -- the task of the Syrian Communists, all progressive forces in the Arab world."

"To preserve peace on earth is the main task nowadays. The Soviet Union exerts every effort to further that noble goal. The report of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov at the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR is a fresh confirmation of the CPSU's invariable course which is aimed at elimination of the threat of a world nuclear conflagration, at consolidation of confidence between nations. The new Soviet peace initiatives are of historical significance. The USSR exerts every effort to put those initiatives into practice," said Khalid Baqdash.

GREETINGS EXCHANGED WITH BAHRAINI AMIR

PM051007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 82 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, conveying to him and the friendly Bahraini people cordial congratulations and good wishes on the country's national holiday.

In a reply telegram the amir of the state of Bahrain expressed gratitude for the congratulations and for his part wished the Soviet people further progress and prosperity.

GROMYKO, OTHER OFFICIALS RECEIVE CUBA'S R. CASTRO

LD301814 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR defence minister, and Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have met today with Raul Castro Ruz, member of the Politbureau, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, first vice-chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba.

During the meeting views were exchanged on some topical international issues of mutual interest.

The participants in the meeting stressed the importance of further vigorous efforts aimed at eliminating the seats of tensions in various parts of the world. They declared for an immediate resolution of the problems of southern Africa on the basis of justice, for putting an end to acts of aggression by the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa against Angola and Mozambique. They reaffirmed their support for the struggle of the Namibian patriots, led by SWAPO [South West African People's Organization] for their homeland's freedom and independence, and for a settlement of the Namibian problem on the basis of the pertinent U.N. resolutions on Namibia.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality and full mutual understanding.

SOVIET MILITARY LEADERS RECEIVE CUBAN MEDALS

PM041401 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Dec 82 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Cuban Awards for Soviet Military Leaders"]

[Text] A presentation of the Cuban "internationalist combatant" medal to a group of Soviet generals and officers took place in Moscow on 24 December. These awards have been conferred upon them for their great services in rendering assistance in the building of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] of the Republic of Cuba.

The awards were presented by Army General R. Castro Ruz, member of the Politburo, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, first vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers and minister of the FAR of the Republic of Cuba.

On behalf of the awardees, Army General I.N. Shkadov, USSR Deputy defense minister, thanked the Government of the Republic of Cuba for the high evaluation of their labor.

Present at the presentation ceremony were Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, and Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

In the hall were members of a Cuban party and state delegation and R. Anillo Capote, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, and Colonel R. Cervantes Aguilera, military, naval and air attache at the embassy.

DRA'S KARMAL ADDRESSES 22 DEC KREMLIN MEETING

PM041533 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 82 Second Edition p 5

[Speech delivered by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at 22 December Moscow Kremlin meeting to mark 60th anniversary of USSR]

[Text] Dear comrades, friends!

We are proud to be in the land of the soviets together with the great Soviet people during these remarkable festive days. The 60th anniversary of the USSR's creation is being widely and ceremonially marked by the peoples of the fraternal and friendly states, peoples of liberated countries and all progressive mankind. This festival is being marked in our country too -- in every corner of revolutionary Afghanistan. In the capital, provinces and districts workers and peasants and all partriotic, working strata of the population are paying a tribute of respect to that outstanding historical event -- the creation of history's first united multinational state of workers and peasants, emboyding mankind's age-old dream of freedom, equality, fraternity and happiness.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation, permit me, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers of the DRA and all the working people of our multinational country and on my own account, to express sincere, deep feelings of friendship and solidarity and convey cordial congratulations and warm fraternal greetings to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and all the great, heroic Soviet people.

Continuing the cause of Great October, 60 years ago **the** Bolshevik party, under the great Lenin's leadership, laid the foundations of the indestructible union of free fraternal peoples who had established Soviet power on their territory. The Soviet Union's situation at the time was not easy. But the great Leninist ideas of creating a family of working peoples united by the lofty goal of building a socialist society inspired Soviet people and enabled them in a historically short space of time, to achieve outstanding successes in all spheres of life.

The creation of a new type of state formation such as the USSR, which is a monolithic, indestructible association of more than 100 nations and ethnic groups, was Vladimir Ilich Lenin's tremendous creative contribution to the revolution of the nationalities question, which is a complex problem of significance for all mankind. The Soviet Union's history is a chronicle of remarkable deeds and vivid evidence of the vitality and the triumph of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy. We know that Soviet people live under the sign of equality, fraternity and friendship, doing everything for the sake of the prosperity of the united socialist motherland. The Soviet people's achievements are an inspiring example to all the world's peoples.

Dear comrades! The Soviet Union is the reliable, mighty bulwark of peoples fighting for independence and freedom and for socioeconomic progress in the working people's interests. A vivid example of this is the Soviet Union's fraternal internationalist assistance to the DRA.

After the victory of the national democratic revolution in Afghanistan in April 1978, relations between our countries rose to a new level of fraternal friendship, all-round cooperation and revolutionary international solidarity. When the forces of imperialism and reaction unleashed an undeclared war against the Afghan people and their revolution, the Soviet Union resolutely came out in support of Afghanistan's independence and freedom and its fight to choose its path of development independently.

The courageous Afghan people are now continuing the struggle for a bright future. Difficult trials have fallen to our lot -- we must fight as well as build a new life. In the crucible of this struggle the PDPA is gaining political and organizational strength, its ranks are growing and the party's ties with the masses are becoming closer. Under the PDPA's leadership our people will overcome all difficulties and trials and will certainly secure victory. We are firmly confident of this, because our true friends are with us, the great Soviet Union is with us!

The DRA counterposes to the misanthropic course of imperialism and its accomplices -- a course aimed at further whipping up international tension -- the noble policy of peace, good-neighborliness and goodwill. Time shows quite clearly the constructive, flexible nature of our proposals on questions of a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. There are no problems incapable of being resolved by peaceful means, through talks. We are for the honest, realistic, just settlement of problems. That is our principled approach.

Recently, at the CPSU Central Committee November plenum, Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stated that solidarity with peoples defending their independence has been and remains a fundamental Soviet foreign policy principle. These words inspire us and give us new strength in the struggle against counterrevolution and reaction and for the implementation of a program of radical socioeconomic transformations in the interests of Afghanistan's working people and the building of a new society free from the exploitation of man by man. (applause)

From this high platform I would like to express the most heartfelt gratitude to the glorious CPSU -- Lenin's party -- and to the Soviet Government and all the Soviet people for the all-round support and great economic assistance granted to us. We will never forget this remarkable manifestation of truly international solidarity. (applause)

Long live the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR -- the world's first united multinational state of the working people!

Long live the indestructible fraternal alliance between the Afghan and Soviet peoples!

May relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation strengthen between peoples throughout the world!

Long live peace, freedom and social progress!

May the red banner of proletarian internationalism, whose principles the Soviet Union upholds in the most consistent fashion, fly forever! (prolonged applause, all stand)

SOLOMENTSEV DISCUSSES RSFSR, NATIONALITIES

LD291236 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Dec 82

[Text] LITERATURNAYA GAZETA today completes the publication of talks with party and state leaders of the union republics to mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. The final talk in the series, which appears in today's paper, is the talk with Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers. It is dedicated to the topical questions of Lenin's policy of nationalities.

The federation's special contribution in establishing and developing a united Soviet state, the consolidation of brotherly relations between the peoples of our country, and the important place it occupies in the economic complex is generally well known. It is not simply a matter of territory, although 3/4 of Soviet territory with more than 17 million square km are impressive figures; and the population of Russia is no mean figure either [i Rossiya naseleniyem ne obizhana]: This year its population exceeded 140 million.

As Comrade Solomentsev emphasized in response to questions by special correspondents of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, the Russian Federation became the first multinationality Soviet state. It began national state construction of the socialist type and has been an example of the new relations based on equal rights, in the true sense, between nations and states. The role of Russia and the working class was first displayed in the creation of a solid economic base of the USSR. Much was hindered by fascist aggression, but our victory in the war testified to the main thing: the vitality and power of a multinationality socialist state. In the 6 decades since the formation of the USSR, the Russian Federation's gross national product has increased 160-fold. Its contribution in general affairs is made by more than 100 nations and ethnic groups living on the republic's territory.

Everywhere modern branches of the economy are development, scientific potential is increasing and cultural construction is widespread. The path to knowledge is open to all nations and nationalities. Under Soviet power 36 ethnic groups of the Federation have acquired a written language. Universities, theaters and museums have been opened in the autonomous republics. Books, papers and periodicals are published in the Federation in more than 50 languages. To mark the jubilee the Russian Federation has, along with other union republics, been given for all time the red banner for successes in labor.

COMPARISON TO REPORTS ON MEETINGS IN MOSCOW

Andropov, Jaruzelski

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 24 December 1982 in its Second Edition publishes on page 1 a TASS report under the heading "Friendly Meeting." It has been compared to the Moscow Domestic Service in Russian report published in the 23 December 1982 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page P 8 under the heading "Andropov, Jaruzelski Meeting," and the following variation has been noted:

Paragraph 6, line 1, PRAVDA reads: ...and Poland will build up [narashchivat] their efforts to... (substituting "build up" for "unite"; supplying vernacular)

Andropov, Heng Samrin

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 25 December 1982 in its Second Edition publishes on page 1 a TASS report under the heading "Yu.V. Andropov's Meeting With Heng Samrin." It has been compared to the TASS English report published under the rubric "Kampuchea's Heng Samrin" in the 27 December 1982 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page P 3 and the following variation has been noted:

Paragraph 2, line 1, PRAVDA reads: ...Soviet-Kampuchean cooperation and on some... (adding "and")

Tikhonov, PDRY Leader

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 24 December 1982 in its Second Edition publishes on page 1 a TASS report under the general heading "Talks in the Kremlin." It has been compared to the TASS English report under the headline "PDRY Leader Meets With Officials in Moscow" "With Tikhonov" published in the 27 December 1982 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on P 4, and the following variation has been noted:

Last paragraph in PRAVDA ends:

The talk, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, was attended by K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and B. Hasanayn, PDRY ambassador to the USSR.

CHERNENKO ARTICLE VIEWS NATIONALITIES QUESTION

LD041638 Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Prague January 4 TASS -- The USSR became in a brief period of time a mighty power exactly because the October Revolution in Russia, which liquidated exploitation of man by man, "simultaneously resolved the problems of nationalities, put an end to national oppression in all its forms and manifestations, ensured real equality of nations and nationalities of the country," writes Konstantin Chernenko, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He contributes an article, devoted to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, to the journal WORLD MARXIST REVIEW [PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA] which is issued here.

The author writes that by the time of the formation of the USSR there existed huge gaps in the levels of economic and cultural development of the peoples which formed the union. The solution of the nationalities question "signified in practice above all the guarantee of actual equality of all nations and nationalities of our country, the complete overcoming of backwardness of former national fringelands."

The formation of the USSR lent a mighty impetus to the development of the country as a whole and of every of the union republics. If in 1922 the Soviet Union's share in the world industrial production was approximately 1 per cent, the figure now is 20 per cent. Over the same period industrial production in the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic went up 428 times, in the Kazakh SSR -- 928 times, in the Armenian SSR -- 1,036 times.

Great possibilities were created for intellectual development of the Soviet peoples. In practice, the author writes, one had to frequently start just from liquidation of illiteracy. In Soviet time more alphabets were devised for the peoples who had no written languages than in the previous history of the whole of Europe.

"But at the present-day historical stage, and in perspective the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is the optimum state form of unity of Soviet nations and nationalities for the sake of attainment of our programmtic goals," writes Konstantin Chernenko.

ATTORNEY URGES GREATER LABOR DISCIPLINE

LD041857 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Talk on strengthening discipline by Yuriy Aleksandrovich (Zhudin), procurator at USSR Prosecutor's Office and senior counselor at law]

[Text] Having completed last year in shock manner, the Soviet people are trying to make a successful start of the New Year 1983, the 3d year of the 5-year plan. Many collectives and enterprises, building sites, transportation sections and other branches of the national economy are adopting pledges directed at a definite improvement in the organization of labor and at strengthening the struggle against lack of economy and against violations of production, state and labor discipline.

However, in some collectives many work interruptions still occur and waste is concealed behind averages and satisfactory indices. Here and there loafers, bad workmen and people who are fond of strong drink try to hide behind the front-rankers. As the procurator's supversion shows, some branches of the national economy, enterprises and organizations each year fail to reduce the waste of working time caused by loafing, idle machinery and administrative failings. The damage amounts to millions of rubles.

A frequent factor in the violation of labor discipline is still a lack of attention by the supervisors at an enterprise or public organization. For example, at enterprises in the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the USSR Ministry of Heavy Machine Building, loafing and other violations of labor discipline are widespread. However, those responsible for the violations are not always disciplined and in some cases instances of loafing are kept off the records.

No case of loafing must escape strict discussion. In these cases there is a special need for publicity and for workmanlike, honest, open and principled discussion in the labor collective. Indeed, everyone will understand that a slacker is someone who lives at the expense of others, at the expense of his own comrades. It is by their labor that social services funds are set up to provide subsidies guaranteeing low prices for many foods, and extremely low rents for housing, public transportation, free medical care, etcetera. However, the slacker, the loafer, undeservedly enjoys these blessings, taking from society more than he himself contributes. The mighty educative force of the collective must be directed at changing the psychology of such people, at accustoming them to real labor.

The most important question in management is the question of the economy of material resources, the resolute struggle against lack of economy and against squandering. It should be said that lack of economy and violations of labor discipline are closely interlinked negative phenomena. In fact, when a boss at an enterprise looks on with equanimity while material valuables are spoiled and state and public funds are squandered, can such an attitude breed in people a lofty feeling of responsibility for work? To be sure, such unscrupulousness on the part of a boss is evaluated accordingly by the workers and some of them decide that they can go unpunished if they produce defective goods and if they assume a careless attitude to the fulfillment of their labor pledges.

Here is an example: At building organizations of Glavbashstroy, in the Bashkirian ASSR, misappropriations and the declaration of inflated output figures, damage to and squandering of capital resources and building materials flourished. In construction directorate No 6 of the (Stereotomatstroy) trust alone several thousand rubles worth of scarce materials were illegally set aside. However, all this failed to worry the trust administration much, not to mention the leaders of lower level construction units. The irresponsible attitude of bosses to their duties was evaluated accordingly by the workers. In the construction and assembly directorates cases of slacking and drunkenness became widespread and certain installations suffered from low-quality building work. The organs of the prosecutor's office of the republic have taken steps to eliminate the violations of the law outlined above. But what step will measure the moral damage inflicted on people by such an attitude?

To raise the level of the organization, of efficiency and of the responsibility of each individual for the matter in hand -- that is the task of the moment. By strictly pursuing this aim, the working people of our country multiply the riches and might of the Soviet state and promote the successful implementation of the program for communist construction.

LETTERS ON ABUSES OF WORK REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

PM041315 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 17 December 1982 in its Second Edition carries on pages 1, 3 a 2,000-word article by "V. Grishin" (not further identified) entitled "Everything Begins With Discipline." The article, comprising a review of readers' letters on violations of labor discipline, cites instances of abuse of the Soviet labor system.

A construction workers from Saratov Oblast outlines failures in construction work there and asserts that "disorganization and confusion" in the running of construction work "are forcing some of us to seek work elsewhere...."

A Moscow driver who wishes to remain anonymous alleges that workers come and go as they please at work, spend time on private business and even to "work on the side," of which the reader writes: "The management know about our 'illicit supplementary' earnings but keep quiet because they themselves illegally accept private automobiles for repair and even take large sums from us drivers."

A war veteran from Sverdlovsk complains that "several times a year millions of Soviet people take time off (vacation) not 2 days but 3 and sometimes even 4 days in a row per week." A reader from the Angarsknefteorgsintez production association calls for "stiffer" penalties against rule breakers. A reader from Ufa complains that "young people loaf aimlessly about the city streets" while his plant is shortstaffed, while another reader from Korov Oblast asks how it can be that people from "Central Asia and the Transcaucasus" can earn a living selling agricultural produce privately in the markets of various cities "at all times of the year." ..."What are the consumer cooperatives doing in the southern republics? Are they really incapable of organizing the purchase of agricultural surpluses from the population locally?"

Grishin concludes by quoting Lenin's call to the Fourth All-Russian Trade Union Congress for better labor discipline.

CPSU, STATE ORGANS ASSESS VALUE OF SUBBOTNIK

LD041752 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] In the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee:

The results of the communist subbotnik, held on 18 December at the appeal of collectives at front-ranking enterprises of Moscow in honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, have been summed up. The subbotnik, which was a bright festival of fraternal friendship to the peoples of our country, took place in an organized manner, was marked by highly productive, quality work and gave good economic results.

According to preliminary data, about 148 million people took part in the subbotnik, producing industrial goods worth more than R845 million. The fund of the 11th 5-year period will receive about R162 million. At the same time the working people of all republics, krays and oblasts contributed highly to the fulfillment of the tasks for 1982, socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 60th anniversary, and to the practical implementation of the decisions of the November plenum of the party Central Committee.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee, have cordially thanked the workers, kolkhoz farmers, engineering and technical office and industrial workers, young people, troops of the Soviet Army and Navy, veterans of war and labor and all who took an active part in the communist subbotnik devoted to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, for their selfless and immeasurable work.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the working people, have decided to put the funds earned at the subbotnik at the disposal of the union republics and the towns of Moscow and Leningrad for the construction of health-care institutions, schools, kindergartens and nurseries.

RASHIDOV ADDRESSES MEETING ON HARVEST SUCCESSES

PM291123 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 5 Dec 82 pp 1-2

["Speech by Comrade Sh.R. Rashidov," candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, at the 4 December meeting in Tashkent devoted to CPSU Central Committee congratulations on farming successes]

[Text] Dear comrades: The CPSU Central Committee greetings message is a document of tremendous significance, a document of particular import. It makes a high assessment of the inspired labor of Uzbekistan's farmers and of all its working people. The moving words of the greetings message express the paternal concern and attention of the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee for cottongrowers and Soviet people's well-being. The message arms working people in agriculture and Uzbekistan's entire agro-industrial complex and party, and Soviet and economic organs with precise guidelines for the further intensification of agricultural production.

Allow me, dear comrades, on your behalf and, through you, on behalf of the farmers and all working people of Uzbekistan to express our most sincere gratitude to the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo for their warm words of greeting and high assessment of our work.

We assure the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo that, responding to the November plenum decisions with action and guided by the instructions of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, we will exert all our effort, knowledge and energy to consolidate as well as augment the results already achieved, and we will scale new heights in communist building.

The battle for the harvest in the second year of the 5-year plan will go down in cotton-growing history as a symbol of the farmers' staunchness and heroism, as a symbol of loyalty to their patriotic and international duty. This is why the cottongrowers' intensive and truly heroic labor warrants particular acknowledgement and the loftiest words of respect and admiration.

Striving to emulate and imitate the cottongrowers, working people in other sectors of agriculture also worked selflessly and honorably fulfilled the socialist pledges they adopted.

Large quantities of grain, vegetables, fruit, potatoes, grapes, melons, kenaf, silkworm cocoons and livestock products were produced. The state has been sold 3.35 million tons of fruit and vegetables -- 370,000 tons more than the plan.

The remarkable victory achieved by the cottongrowers and all field and livestock unit workers was an embodiment of the titanic labor, talent and skill of our kolkhoz members, workers, members of the intelligentsia, and young people and of the close cooperation and mutual assistance of all the fraternal republics in our great and powerful country.

The 6-million ton cotton harvest is a visible embodiment of the creative force of the party's agrarian policy and constitutes our contribution to the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and Food Program.

The results of the current agricultural year demonstrate that large harvests are possible even under adverse weather conditions. The cold spring, hail, repeated resowings, the exceptionally hot summer, the extremely severe lack of water and the bad autumn weather did great damage to the harvest. However, the farmers' strength of spirit, their staunchness and valor, good organization, efficiency, reliance on advanced agrotechnical techniques and comprehensive mechanization, and excellent work in all sectors of production minimized the consequences of the bad weather and made it possible to grow successfully and gather a rich harvest.

The success first achieved by the republic in the latter stages of the 10th 5-year plan has been consolidated yet again. An annual 6 million tons of cotton is becoming a norm and tradition for the golden hands of our cottongrowers.

Thanks to the measures adopted and the great assistance from the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Government there has been a sharp rise in the quality of cotton. Approximately 70 percent of the cotton delivered is now of top quality, as opposed to 46 percent in 1980. There has been a considerable increase in the production of most valuable fine-stable cotton.

The number of countries buying cotton fiber from Uzbekistan is constantly expanding. This valuable product is now supplied to 32 foreign states.

The party's instruction that, despite weather conditions, it is possible and necessary to achieve stable results in the activity of the agro-industrial complex and fulfill and overfulfill national economic plans and socialist pledges is thus being implemented.

On this joyful day of celebration I wish to express sincere gratitude and acknowledgement to everybody involved in this truly a battle of all the people for a large Uzbekistan cotton harvest and to all who have again augmented our republic's glory.

An enormous thank you to our kolkhoz members, sovkhoz workers and experts. These people, from the first days of spring to the last days of the foul autumn weather, had but one thought -- the cotton harvest -- and strove to maximize the size of every boll and courageously overcome the blows that the weather inflicted.

Our machine operators conscientiously toiled in the cotton plantations. Making highly productive use of machinery, the guardsmen of the fields unloaded over 3 million tons of "white gold" from their machines' hoppers.

The cottongrowers' well-earned success is rightly shared today by working people in agriculture, water resources, state committee for the supply of production equipment to agriculture subunits, procurement organizations and transport, agricultural airmen, scientists and specialists.

The latest harvest campaign demonstrated with renewed force the unbreakable alliance of the hammer and sickle, and the constantly strengthening relations of friendship and mutual aid between urban and rural working people. The republic's industrial enterprises provided the countryside with prompt supplies of equipment, spare parts, fertilizers and everything necessary for the development of technical progress and the intensification of agricultural production.

Taking to heart the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium and Government appeal, workers, employees and school and college students went out into the fields during the hot days of the harvest and joined ranks with the cottongrowers. The republic's city dwellers fulfilled their civic and patriotic duty with honor and dignity.

Homage and heartfelt thanks to you, dear comrades, for your truly invaluable assistance and your heroic labor!

We value highly the concern displayed for the cottongrowers by working people in culture, public health, consumer services, the services sphere and trade. It was thanks to their efforts that the necessary conditions for efficient work by the harvesters and machine operators were created.

As in previous years, party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations, kolkhoz, sovkhoz, department and team leaders and agricultural specialists proved equal to the prescribed tasks.

The high standard of organizational and political work, the broad scale of socialist competition and the introduction of advanced methods into production promoted the successful completion of the "white harvest."

The results of the outgoing years are gratifying. All sectors of the national economy rose to a new level. Further production growth and improvements in the technical and economic indicators recorded by industrial workers were secured. Workers in construction, transport, communications and other spheres of the economy and culture achieved notable successes.

We have indeed done a considerable amount. But as Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stated at the November plenum, difficult and intensive work lies ahead. This is why it is important to increase the activeness of the working masses and the efficiency of party organizations' organizational and political work, to constantly strengthen state and labor discipline and to increase working people's responsibility for the job entrusted to them. Everybody must have a clear picture of the objectives and tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee November plenum and of his own contribution to achieving them.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum decisions and the program speech delivered at it by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov gear party, soviet trade union and Komsomol organizations, economic organs and all Uzbekistan's working people to the need to step up the intensification of social production, and improve the efficiency of the national economy and the quality of work.

In terms of our actions and plans we are geared to the future; this is the essence of our system. This is our Soviet way of life.

Agricultural workers must now sharply increase the rate of implementation of winter measures and carry out livestock wintering in an exemplary manner. The comprehensive completion of work in fields, livestock units and workshops will make it possible to lay a reliable foundation for obtaining record harvests of cotton, grain, fruit, vegetables and other arable farming and stockraising output next year and thereby increase their contribution to the fulfillment of the Food Program.

Industrial workers must concentrate their attention on accelerating scientific and technical progress, increasing labor productivity, increasing production and improving output quality. Working without laggards completing the year with good technical and economic indicators in all sectors of production -- this must be the slogan for industrial enterprise and association collectives, ministries and departments today.

Construction workers currently face exceptionally crucial tasks. They have little time left but have a very great deal to do before the end of the year. We hope that construction workers will double and triple their labor efforts, fulfill the year's construction program and commissioning all the production, housing and cultural and consumer service projects scheduled for commissioning.

Precise and harmonious work by Uzbekistan's working people in all sectors of economic and cultural building, and creative and enterprising work will be our best response to the Leninist party's concern.

In conclusion allow me to assure the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo once again that the republic's working class, kolkhoz peasantry and intelligentsia will develop the socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation on an even broader scale, bring into play new reserves and potential for increasing production and improving output quality, overfulfill the plans for the 3d year of the 5-year plan and achieve new successes in the struggle to implement the historic decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums.

PARTY RESOLUTION ON KUSTANAY OBLAST KOLKHOZ

PM171031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Dec 82 Second Edition pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee. On the Work of the Party Organization of the Put k Kommunizmu Kolkhoz in Fedorovskiy Rayon, Kustanay Oblast. On the Fulfillment of the Decisions of the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee?]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has heard a report from the party committee of the Put k Kommunizmu Kolkhoz in Fedorovskiy Rayon, Kustanay Oblast, on the kolkhoz party organization's work to fulfill the decisions of the May (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

The adopted resolution notes that the kolkhoz party organization acts as the collective's leading force and is carrying out vigorous organizational and mass-political work to implement tasks arising out of the decisions of the May (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the country's Food Program.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee plenum were discussed in party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and at kolkhoz members' meetings. On the basis of their proposals a comprehensive plan was elaborated for the development of the farm up to 1990. In the current 5-year plan the idea is to increase the grain crops yield by 4-5 quintals and obtain 23-24 quintals per hectare, and to increase the production of meat by 10 percent -- bringing it up to 1,000 tons -- and milk by 12 percent, -- bringing it up to 6,000 tons per year. Measures will be implemented on the social reorganization of the village.

The party organization, which numbers 142 Communists, is focusing the efforts of the kolkhoz board, specialists and the entire collective on making better use of land, further strengthening the material and technical base and introducing the achievements of science, leading experience and progressive techniques.

A scientifically substantiated soil-protection system of arable farming is being introduced on the farm. First-class, regionalized strains of seeds of high genetic purity [vysokikh reproduktsiy] are being sown for grain crops. The use of mineral and organic fertilizers is increasing and agrotechnical measures are being taken to accumulate moisture. Most of the labor-intensive processes in livestock raising have been mechanized, intensive methods of fattening livestock are being introduced and all coarse fodder is processed and fed to the livestock in prepared form. Steps are being taken to improve the skills of machine operators and livestock raisers.

All this makes it possible to farm profitably and increase production and sales of products to the state. In the 10th 5-year plan gross output increased 1.7 times, while labor productivity increased by 66 percent. Sales of grain to the state, including hard and strong strains of wheat, doubled. The average surrender weight of cattle was in excess of 500 KG.

The resolution stresses that the kolkhoz party committee is paying constant attention to ideological education work in the collective and to the solution of social questions. Production and labor discipline and public order have markedly improved. One-third of the funds earmarked for the development of the farm go on the construction of cultural and consumer facilities. Young people are quite willing to stay in the countryside, and they constitute over 40 percent of the able-bodied kolkhoz members. The farm has an adequate number of skilled machine operators and livestock raisers.

The Kolkhoz working people have launched extensive socialist competition for a fitting greeting to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation and this year obtained 19.3

quintals of grain from each of the 26,000 hectares; and sold 40,300 tons of grain to the state which is 13,000 tons more than the plan. The annual plan for the sale of meat to the state has been fulfilled and the milk procurements plan is nearing fulfillment.

At the same time, the resolution points out that the kolkhoz party organization's work does not yet fully accord with the instructions of the May plenum of the CPSU Central Committee on switching production to the intensive mode of development. The farm has big reserves and great potential for further increasing output. In field-crop cultivation, crop rotations have not yet been fully assimilated. The yield of fodder pulse crops remains low. Frequently the harvest work takes too long and losses occur. Financial autonomy has not been introduced in all production sections and the switch to the team contract is proceeding too slowly.

The party organization has failed to make livestock raising the countryside's real shock front, as required by the 26th CPSU Congress. There are particularly serious shortcomings in dairy farming. Milk yields have fallen in recent years, milk production is slow to increase and none of the milk supplied is of high quality. Veterinary work is poor and there have been many cases of infectious diseases among livestock. Only 65-70 calves are obtained per 100 cows in the kolkhoz. The kolkhoz does not keep hogs. Few protein-rich crops and root crops are grown for fodder and fodder storage facilities are essentially lacking. Because of the poor quality of the fodder the expenditure per unit of output considerably exceeds the norm.

The kolkhoz party committee and board do not always conduct a critical appraisal of the results that have been achieved, and they fail to make the proper demands on leaders of production subunits and specialists regarding the fuller exploitation of existing reserves. Monitoring and organization of the execution of decisions are inadequate. Some shop party organizations and party groups are not purposeful enough in their eduction work in collectives and fail to pay proper attention to the placement of Communist in production, especially in livestock raising. Overall, the party ranks are swelling, but the number of milkmaids, calfherds and working people of other leading professions admitted to the party remains extremely small. The work of trade union and Komsomol organizations, requires further improvement.

The CPSU Central Committee made it incumbent on the Put k Kommunizmu Kolkhoz party committee to utilize the accumulated experience in improving organizational and political work on the fulfillment of the decisions of the May and November (1982) plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. Since the food problem is the central problem of the current decade both economically and politically, attention must be focused on substantially increasing the kolkhoz's contribution to its solution on the basis of intensification and improvement of the efficiency and quality of social production.

It is necessary, the resolution says, to mobilize the collective's efforts more fully to ensure that the farm progresses, develops at a rapid rate and constantly increases production and sales to the state of arable farming and livestock raising products. It is necessary to ensure the fulfillment of the measures elaborated in the kolkhoz and aimed at strengthening the economy, to improve the sociocultural living conditions of the rural population and increase the staff's material interest in achieving high end results.

The kolkhoz party organization and board, the resolution stresses, must seek to make better use of land, manpower and funds. Relying on the high skills, traditions and experience of the virgin land farmers, it is necessary to persistently improve soil fertility, comprehensively introduce a scientifically substantiated soil-protection system of arab farming, which takes natural and climatic conditions into account, and complete, in the very near future, the assimilation of crop rotations with the optimum amount of clean fallow.

Other agrotechnical measures must be implemented to obtain large and stable harvests of all agricultural crops, especially strong and hard strains of wheat.

The attention of the kolkhoz party committee and board was drawn to the fact that insufficient work was being done to develop livestock raising, in particular dairy farming, and they were told to take extra steps to improve livestock unit productivity, breeding work and the reproduction of the herd and to raise the general standard of work in this sector. In order to increase meat production it was recommended that the farm exploit opportunities for developing hog raising as the livestock raising sector which provides the fastest results. The resolution points out the need to step up work on fodder production. More protein-rich crops and root crops must be grown. Progressive techniques for producing, procuring and processing fodder must be introduced on a wide scale and storage facilities must be created for it.

The CPSU Central Committee told the kolkhoz party organization and board to persistently improve economic work, to comprehensively strengthen financial autonomy in all production subunits and seek to further improve labor productivity, lower the cost and increase the profitability of production and improve output quality.

The resolution stresses that the practice of payment in kind needs improvement and more vigorous efforts must be made to introduce team and collective contracts, the job contract plus bonus system and other forms of collective interest in and responsibility for final results. Efforts must be made to ensure that every working person, as the May plenum of the CPSU Central Committee stressed, is aware of the direct, straightforward and natural link between what he has done and what he has earned. The significance of qualitative factors when summing up competition results must be increased. Leading cadres and working people in mass occupations must be helped to acquire economic knowledge, and the ability to operate correctly and utilize all forms of training for this purpose.

Attention was drawn to the need to resolutely combat losses, to ensure that economy measures are strictly observed in every work place and that prudent use is made of equipment, fertilizers, fuel and power.

The kolkhoz party committee was told to strengthen leadership of shop party organizations and party groups, and give them more help in conducting daily organizational and political work among the collectives of production subunits. It is necessary to improve the placement of Communists and pay greater attention to the selection of leading kolkhoz members, especially machine operators and livestock raisers for the party. It is necessary to improve monitoring and verification of execution, step up the activity of monitoring commissions and increase the effectiveness of decisions. There were recommendations regarding developing criticism and self-criticism and generating an atmosphere of high exactingness and intolerance of any manifestations of mismanagement or violations of labor and state discipline.

The resolution points out that the party organization must constantly focus attention on questions relating to work with cadres and ensure that all the kolkhoz sectors and production sections are headed by skilled specialists and able organizers and educators. In view of the farm's growing needs, it was proposed that the training of machine operators, livestock raisers and other mass-occupation cadres be improved and their expertise increased.

Initiative must be developed and every assistance must be given to trade union and Komsomol organizations in the solution of tasks advanced by the May plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and in the development of effective socialist competition.

Emphasis was placed on the need to develop and implement democratic principles of the management of kolkhoz affairs and to increase the role of kolkhoz members' meetings and departmental councils.

The resolution notes that the party committee and shop party organizations should link their ideological work closely to the tasks facing the farm in the light of the decisions of the May plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the country's Food Program. Efforts must be made to ensure that it contributes to generating a healthy moral and psychological climate in the collective, strengthening labor and production discipline and educating working people in the spirit of Soviet patriotism, internationalism and the friendship of the peoples. The glorious traditions of the kolkhoz peasantry and virgin-landers of Kazakhstan must be augmented. Special attention must be paid to the ideological, labor and moral education of young people, love of the land must be instilled in young men and women and they must develop a prudent attitude toward kolkhoz property. Young people must be helped to improve their general educational standard and production skills and the mentor movement must be developed. Work to retain young people in the countryside is to be viewed as an important factor in the solution of economic and social problems on the kolkhoz.

The kolkhoz party organization and board, the trade union committee and the rural Bannovskiy Soviet Ispolkom were told to ensure the comprehensive solution of tasks relating to the reorganization of the countryside. Constant concern must be shown for satisfying kolkhoz members' cultural and consumer needs. Expanding the construction on a collective and individual basis of well-appointed farmhouse-type homes with outbuildings and the work of children's preschool, cultural enlightenment and medical institutions, schools and trade, public catering and consumer enterprises must be improved. It was recommended that greater attention should be paid to developing kolkhoz members' personal plots and that conditions should be created enabling every rural family to have a plot of land on the farm and keep livestock and poultry.

The CPSU Central Committee instructed Kustanay Obkom and Fedorovskiy Raykom to give the Put k Kommunizmu Kolkhoz party organization the necessary assistance in fulfilling the resolution. It is necessary to enhance the responsibility of oblast and rayon organizations and enterprise leaders for the prompt and complete fulfillment of the amount of work in kolkhozes and sovkhozes stipulated by plans and treaty pledges.

TURKMEN SUPREME SOVIET SESSION HELD 4 DEC

PM221517 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 4 Dec 82 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Sittings"]

[Text] The 6th Session of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation, was held 3 December in the Supreme Soviet Hall of Sessions in Ashkhabad.

At 1000 hours O. Ovezgeldyyev, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet, and his deputies E.M. Ovezova and P.Ya. Shcheblykin took their seats. The sixth session was declared open.

The boxes were occupied by Turkmen Communist party Central Committee Politburo members M.G. Gapurov, V.F. Zhulenev, Ch.S. Karryyev, N.V. Makarkin, G.S. Mishchenko, M. Moldayeva, A.I. Rachkov and B. Yazkuliyev and Politburo Candidate members S.A. Niyazov and V.A. Kharkov.

The deputies and those invited to attend the session observed a minute's silence in memory of that major politician, statesman of modern times and ardent fighter for peace and friendship between the people Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, who died recently.

At the suggestion of the chairman, speaking on behalf of the soviet of elders, the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet confirmed the agenda for the session.

The agenda included the following items:

1. The State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1983 and progress in the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1982.

2. The Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1983 and the implementation of the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1981.

3. The tasks of the republic's soviets to fulfill the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Resolution "On Turkmen SSR Soviets' Work To Develop Housing Construction and Municipal and Consumer Services for the Rural Population in the Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum."

4. Report on the work of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Commission on Trade and Public catering.

5. Ratification of Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees.

The Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet listened to a report by deputy V.Ye. Abramov, deputy chairman of the Republic's Gosplan, on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1983 and progress in the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1982, and a report by Deputy Kh. Sukhanov, Turkmen SSR minister of finance, on the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1983 and the implementation of the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1981.

On behalf of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Standing Commissions Deputy Yu.L. Kireyev, chairman of the Plan and Budget Commission, delivered the coreport on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1983 and on progress in the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1982, on the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1983 and on the implementation of the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1981.

The following deputies contributed to the discussion of the questions: V.V. Mikhaylov (Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug No 74), D. Ovezova (Arabskiy Electoral Okrug No 208), O.M. Kafurov (Sayatskiy Electoral Okrug No 306), R. Annayev (Charlak-Yabskiy Electoral Okrug No 148), M.D. Nurmagambetova (Naberezhnyy Electoral Okrug No 91), S.A. Niyazov (Farabskiy Electoral Okrug No 310), Vi.I. Gladkiy (Khlopkozavodzkiy Electoral Okrug No 126), K. Mollayev (Kizyl-Baydakskiy Electoral Okrug No 238), G. Myalikgulyyev (Universitetskiy Electoral Okrug No 36), N.G. Sapozhkov (Karabekaulskiy Electoral Okrug No 295), Ch. Khanamov (Tselinnyy Electoral Okrug No 84), T. Durdynazarov (Achka-Kuyminskiy Electoral Okrug No 111), P.Ya. Shcheblykin (Murgabskiy Electoral Okrug No 131) and N. Akyyev (Chokh-Pettinskiy Electoral Okrug No 314).

With this the debate on the first and second items on the session agenda ended.

The concluding speech on the question of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1983 and on progress in the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1982 was delivered by Deputy V.Ye. Abramov, deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Turkmen SSR Gosplan.

The Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted the Law on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1983 and a resolution on progress in the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1982.

The concluding speech on the question of the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1982 and implementation of the Turkmen SSR State budget for 1981 was delivered by Deputy Kh. Sukhanov, Turkmen SSR minister of finance.

The Supreme Soviet ratified the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1983 incorporating the amendments of the plan and budget and sector standing commissions of the Supreme Soviet and also adopted a resolution approving the report on the implementation of the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1981.

Then the Supreme Soviet examined the question of the tasks of the republic's Soviets to fulfill the USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution "On Turkmen SSR Soviets' Work to Develop Housing Construction and Municipal and Consumer Services for the Rural Population in the Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum."

The report on this matter was delivered by Deputy B. Yazkuliyev, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The following deputies contributed to the debate: R.A. Annayev (Mayskiy Electoral Okrug No 289), G.G. Gurbanov (Mekhinlinskiy Electoral Okrug No 257), K. Khodzhamamedov (Talkhatanskiy Electoral Okrug No 153), A Avdyyev (Gyaminskiy Electoral Okrug No 64), S. Orazmedov (Taskauzskiy Zapadnyy Electoral Okrug No 204), M.K. Shabasanov (Kichi-Aginskiy Electoral Okrug No 78) and B. Gulmanov (Darvazinskiy Electoral Okrug No 48).

The Supreme Soviet adopted a resolution "On the tasks of the Republic's Soviet To Fulfill the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Resolution "On Turkmen SSR Soviet's Work To Develop Housing Construction and Municipal and Consumer Services for the Rural Population in the Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum."

The session went on to examine the next item on the agenda -- the report on the work of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Commission on Trade and Public catering. The report was delivered by Deputy G. Berdyyev, chairman of the commission.

Then the Supreme Soviet heard a report by Deputy O. Nazarova, secretary of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees submitted for ratification by the sixth session and adopted a corresponding law and resolution.

With this the sixth session of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet ended.

TURKMEN SSR COMMUNIST PARTY CC PLENUM HELD

PM220903 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 3 Dec 82 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The 10th Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee plenum was held 2 December in Ashkhabad. It discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the republic party organization's tasks. A report was delivered by M.G. Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee.

The plenum also heard reports by V.Ye. Abramov, deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Republic's Gosplan, "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1983 and Progress in the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Turkmen SSR in 1982" and by Turkmen SSR Finance Minister Kh. Sukhanov "On the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1983 and the Implementation of the Turkmen SSR State Budget for 1981."

The following people spoke in the debate: P. Annaorazov, first secretary of Ashkhabad Obkom; S. Dzhumagulyyev, board chairman of the Kommunizm Kolkhoz in Khalachskiy Rayon; Ata. Akgayev, first secretary of Mary Obkom; A.B. Shallyyev, drill operator at the Turkmenyuzhburgas production association's south Turkmen exploratory drilling administration; B. Atayev, first secretary of Tashauz Obkom; S. Khanova, team leader at the Kommunizm Kolkhoz in Kunya-Urgenchsiy Rayon; R. Khudayberdiyev, first secretary of Chardzhou Obkom; A. Muratdurdyyev, first secretary of Gyaurskiy Raykom; Ye.T. Mitrin, first secretary of Krasnovodsk Obkom; O.I. Ishankuliyeva, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Potrebsayuz; S.G. Bagramov, first secretary of Nebit-Dag Gorkom; B. Khaydarov, Turkmen SSR minister of the cotton ginning industry; and V.I. Smykov, Turkmen SSR minister of highway construction and maintenance.

A resolution was adopted on the matters under discussion.

V.M. Yashin, instructor at the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Section, and A.I. Obruchev, instructor at the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, participated in the Plenum's work.

With this the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee plenum ended.

UZBEK SSR SUPREME SOVIET HOLDS SESSION 30 NOV

PM201533 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 1 Dec 82 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Sittings of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] The 6th session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet 10th Convocation was held in Tashkent 30 November 1982.

In the government boxes were Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; members and candidate members of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Bureau Ye. Aytmuratov, I.G. Anisimiin, M.M. Musakhanov, T.N. Osetrov, A.U. Salimov, I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, N.D. Khudayberdyyev, N.M. Makhmudova, L.N. Melkumov and U. Umarov and members of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the republic's government.

The sitting [zasedaniye] was opened by Deputy A.A. Khodzhayev chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet.

At the chairman's table were Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet deputy chairmen -- Deputies T. Akhunova, S.K. Kanyazov, M. Matkarimov and M.P. Pavlov.

The deputies honored with a minute's silence the memory of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, that outstanding leader of the Communist Party and Soviet state, very eminent figure of the international communist and workers movement and tireless fighter for peace and the peoples' friendship.

On the basis of the credentials commission report delivered by Deputy Z. Israilova, chairman of the commission, the Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted a resolution recognizing the mandates of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Deputies B. Allamuradov, elected 20 June 1982 for the Uzbekistanskiy Electoral Okrug No 274; A.M. Khudayberdyyev, elected 20 June 1982 for the Turakurganskiy Electoral Okrug No 281; B.A. Navruzov, elected 19 September 1982 for the Kuvinskiy Electoral Okrug No 434; and S.A. Nishanov elected 3 October 1982 for Bozskiy Electoral Okrug No 135.

The following agenda for the session was unanimously approved:

1. The state plan for the economic and social development of the Uzbek SSR for 1983 and progress in the fulfillment of the state plan for the economic and social development of the Uzbek SSR in 1982.

2. The Uzbek SSR state budget for 1983 and the implementation of the Uzbek SSR state budget in 1981.

3. The formation of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet standing commission on power.

4. Ratification of the decrees of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Deputy K.A. Akhmedov, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic's Gosplan, delivered the report on the state plan for the economic and social development of the Uzbek SSR for 1983 and progress in the fulfillment of the state plan for the economic and social development of the Uzbek SSR in 1982.

A report was heard from Deputy V. Muratkhodzhayev, Uzbek SSR Minister of finance, on the Uzbek SSR state budget for 1983 and the implementation of the Uzbek SSR state budget in 1981.

The deputies also heard the coreport of the Plan and Budget Commission and other standing commissions of the Supreme Soviet delivered by Deputy Sh. Yakubov, deputy chairman of the Plan and Budget Commission.

The following deputies took part in the discussion of the reports on the first two items on the agenda: K.P. Dudin (Farkhadskiy Electoral Okrug No 3); S.Kh. Khamrakulov (Dashtakibalinskiy Electoral Okrug No 483); U. Asatov (Kaganskiy Electoral Okrug No 170); I.T. Sorokin (Leningradskiy Electoral Okrug No 456); M. Igamberdyyev (Pakhtaabadskiy Electoral Okrug No 107); O.Suliyeva (Kundzhinskiy Electoral Okrug No 128); T. Islamov (Kokaralskiy Electoral Okrug No 87); R. Rakhmanov (Imeni Ibn-siny Electoral Okrug No 196); N. Kholmirzayeva (Akkurganskiy Electoral Okrug No 357); Ya.A. Iliadi (Mubarekskiy Electoral Okrug No 241); A. Rustamov (Mulkabadskiy Electoral Okrug No 454); V.S. Zhelonkina Yangiyerskiy Electoral Okrug No 399); and A. Mamazhonov, (Shakhandskiy Electoral Okrug No 282).

Deputy K.A. Akhmedov, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic's Gosplan, and deputy V. Muratkhodzhayev, Uzbek SSR minister of finance delivered concluding remarks.

The Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted the Law on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Uzbek SSR for 1983 and a resolution On Progress in the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Uzbek SSR in 1982.

The Law on the Uzbek SSR State Budget for 1983 and a resolution On the Implementation of the Uzbek SSR State Budget in 1981 were unanimously adopted.

The Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet formed the standing commission on power. Some 21 deputies were elected to the commission's staff. Deputy G.Kh. Kadyrov was elected chairman of the commission. Certain changes were made to the staff of previously elected standing commissions.

The deputies heard the report delivered by Deputy G.K. Khaydarova, secretary of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on ratifying the decrees of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Supreme Soviet ratified the decress submitted for its examination and adopted the relevant laws and resolutions. With that the 6th Session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation completed its work.

SPEECHES AT USSR SUPREME SOVIET SESSION REPORTED

Turkmen Party Official

PM221419 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 27 Nov 82 p 2

[Speech delivered by Deputy A. Charyyev, chief of the Glavkarakumstroy administration and secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, (Kaakhinskiy Electoral Okrug, Turkmen SSR), at the 24 November morning session of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet during the debate on the USSR state plan and budget]

[Excerpt] Comrades! Our contribution to the implementation of the country's Food Program is primarily connected with continuing the construction of the Karakum Canal and with irrigating and opening up lands in the canal zone. The Communist Party and the Soviet Government have constantly paid and continue to pay great attention to the construction of this canal as the basis of the successful implementation of agrarian policy in Turkmenistan. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum which envisaged the completion of the construction of the Karakum Canal, are a further vivid expression of such paternal concern.

The extension of construction into the republic's subtropical regions will increase the area of irrigated lands in the canal zone to 1.1 million hectares. The supply of water to the acutely drought-ridden Caspian region opens up great prospects for the transformation of the republic's western areas. The soil and climatic conditions there are very favorable for the cultivation of fine-fiber cotton, olives, almonds, figs, pomegranates and very early types of fruit, grapes, vegetables and cucurbits. The frost-free period here is up to 300 days annually and the sum of effective temperatures is about 6,000 degrees (summa effektivnykh temperatur) [presumably meant to imply an average daily temperature of about 70 degrees Fahrenheit], which is higher than in other southern regions of the country.

The republic also has great potential for improving the efficiency of the already irrigated lands where work must be done to improve reclamation and to modernize drainage systems.

Taking into account what has been said and the favorable demographic conditions that have taken shape, we would ask the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources to examine the question of the feasibility of accelerating the opening up of virgin lands in this region and increasing the quantity and pace of work on the qualitative improvement of previously irrigated lands. The implementation of the above measures would enable the republic to increase the production of fine-fiber cotton (with first class fiber) to 700,000-800,000 tons and of grapes (mainly dessert and seedless varieties) to 1 million tons and to greatly increase production of the common onion.

The resolution of these questions also makes it necessary to develop the agricultural produce processing industry since the existing capacities even now cannot ensure the processing of the cotton, vegetables, grapes and other agricultural output being produced. We are confident that all this will substantially increase Turkmenistan's contribution to the whole state's economic potential.

Armenia's Sarkisov

PM221139 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 25 Nov 82 p 2

[Speech delivered by Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman B.Ye. Sarkisov (deputy for Sevanskiy Electoral Okrug) at 24 November Morning Session of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet]

[Excerpt] If we analyze our work critically and compare its results with our potential, we will clearly see that its effectiveness could be much greater. When talking of the reasons for this, we have in mind primarily the omissions in our work. The shortcomings in the matter production organization noted at the party Central Committee November plenum also apply to our republic.

Guided by the instructions of the Central Committee plenum, we will do everything in our power to constantly improve the style and methods of economic activity and to eliminate, and above all anticipate, shortcomings. But at the same time the republic needs the active help of the USSR Gosplan and certain USSR ministries in order to increase considerably the volume of industrial production and increase the pace of its development.

The fact is that despite the availability of considerable spare labor resources and spare production capacities in the republic, a whole range of major enterprises remains underloaded. This applies to enterprises of the Ministries of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems, the Automotive Industry, Construction, Road and Municipal Machine Building and Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building. This has led to a perceptible slump in the pace of growth of industrial production volume both at the enterprises of the aforementioned ministries and throughout the republic as a whole. The growth in volume of industrial production envisaged by the draft plan in 1983 in comparison with 1982 is 1/3 less than the average growth achieved by the republic in the last 6 years. It must be said that this situation is having an adverse effect on the solution of social questions too.

We ask the USSR Gosplan and the leaders of the aforementioned ministries to seek out the potential and to examine and resolve together with the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers the question of increasing in 1983 and subsequent years the volume of industrial production at enterprises under their jurisdiction which are located in our republic.

On the same question again: Most enterprises located in the Armenian SSR are under the jurisdiction of union and union republic ministries. The overwhelming proportion of workers and employees in the republic's economy work at these enterprises. Practice shows that certain of these ministries do not display due simultaneous concern for resolving social questions when constructing, reconstruction and planning industrial production. This applies primarily to the allocation of the necessary funds for building housing, children's preschool establishments, polyclinics, preventive clinics and other sociocultural, municipal and consumer installations. As a result, the principle of the integration of economic and social development is violated.

All this, in particular, was mentioned at the last session of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet, which discussed the question of the work of the republic's local soviets in further improving planning and ensuring the integrality of economic and social development in their area. Thus, the Ministries of the Machine Building Industry, the Automotive Industry and Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems, which have 35,000 workers and employees working at their enterprises in the republic, still have not built any preventive clinics, holiday homes or polyclinics for them.

Only 18-19 percent of the demand for preschool establishments is being met on average. What is more, while 10 years ago they built 50,000 square meters of housing in Leninakan city, where there are many enterprises under union jurisdiction, last year they built 80 percent less, that is only 10,000 square meters in all.

We ask the appropriate USSR ministries and, in particular, the aforementioned ministries to rectify the state of affairs as far as possible in the coming year and in subsequent years to pay more attention to the social development of their enterprises located in the Armenian SSR.

Lithuanian TU Chief

PM221311 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 27 Nov 82 pp 2-3

[Speech delivered by Deputy A.A. Ferensas, chairman of the Lithuanian Trade Union Council, (Kaunasskiy Rural Electoral Okrug, Lithuanian SSR) at the 24 November morning session of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet debate on the USSR plan and budget]

[Excerpts] Comrade! In real life the solution of economic questions is always closely interwoven with that of social questions. We trade union workers and, of course, not only we, are constantly coming up against housing problems. About 70 percent of the republic's population is now living in postwar housing and apartments. Despite this, there is still not enough housing for certain collectives and this is a most serious issue. Many urban inhabitants are expecting new and well-equipped housing since they are still living in decrepit housing which is due for demolition. There is still a shortage of places in student hostels and in invalid and old people's homes, and there are many families waiting in line for the construction of cooperative apartments. Thus our great concern at the fact that the rate of growth of the republic's housing stock has declined in recent years in understandable. The 1983 plan for Lithuania, and mainly for the republic's city organizations, envisages a further reduction in the volume of housing construction. This not only slows down the solution of this social problem but also aggravates the manpower shortage of enterprises and organizations of various sectors of the national economy, and also makes it harder to consolidate the existing work force. Taking these factors into account, we would ask for ways to be found for maintaining the volume of urban housing construction at the level of the current year's plan.

I would like to touch on another problem. Difficulties have arisen in recent years with the drinking water supply in a number of our republic's cities owing to inadequate water mains capacities. There is costly work to be done to improve drinking water quality. Because of the rapid growth of its cities, Lithuania has lagged behind other union republics in terms of the level of sewage treatment -- only 37 percent of sewage in Lithuania is treated. This question is closely connected with the government's decisions to step up the protection of the Baltic against pollution by urban effluents. Even so this is not the first time that we have raised this problem and certain USSR ministries are also unwilling to provide resources, on the basis of proportional participation, for the construction of water conservation installations next year.

With the aim of further improving the population's housing conditions and overcoming bottlenecks in municipal services, that complex and vitally important system of arteries in the organism of the modern city, we would ask the USSR Supreme Soviet to instruct the country's Council of Ministers to find the potential for helping the republic to increase the volume of municipal construction for 1983.

Our republic has approved a disease prevention program which provides a package of organizational, medical and economic measures. The fulfillment of the program also requires assistance from union organs.

During the years of Soviet power the number of hospital beds in Lithuania per 10,000 inhabitants increased fourfold. The need to radically improve hospital work at one point forced us to set up medical establishments in converted premises. In a number of instances this primarily "temporary option" has persisted to this day and lags increasingly behind present-day needs. Thus we would ask the Gosplan and the USSR Ministry of Health to bear in mind that in addition to the tasks of achieving the all-union standard in terms of numbers of hsopital beds, our republic now needs more substantial capital investments in order to transfer those estalbishments from the converted premises, which do not meet present-day conditions, into conventional hospital buildings.

IZVESTIYA NOTES PUBLICATION OF SHEVARDNADZE BOOK

PM041139 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Dec 82 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "In an Unbreakable Alliance"]

[Text] The book "Soviet Georgia" [Sovetskaya Gruziya] by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee has been published.

It tells of the great transformations effected in the republic over the years of Soviet power. The author reveals the impressive achievements of real socialism under the conditions of a multinational state and shows the Leninist friendship of the USSR's peoples as an important factor in the flowering and rapprochement of our country's nations and ethnic groups.

The book is published by the Political Literature Publishing House.

DEATH OF NUCLEAR POWER AGENCY CHIEF ANNOUNCED

PM240913 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Dec 82 Second Edition p 6

[Unattributed, untitled announcement]

[Text] The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification and the All-Union Soyuzglavzagranatomenergo association announce with deep regret that Vladimir Petrovich Nevskiy, member of the CPSU, candidate of technical sciences, holder of the Lenin Prize and State Prize, member of the ministry Collegium and chief of the All-Union Soyuzglavzagranatomenergo association, died suddenly on 12 December 1982 in his 56th year, and express sincere condolences with the friends and relatives of the deceased.

CORRECTION TO REPORT ON LEADERS' APPEARANCE

The following correction should be made to the article published in the 3 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on pages R 4-5 entitled "Leaders at 20 Dec Wreath-Laying":

Page R 5, paragraph 1, lines 2 and 3 should read: ...nearest the camera, Grishin, Ustinov and Pelshe. The camera cuts ... (substituting "Pelshe" for "Kuznetsov")

INDUSTRY'S PERFORMANCE IN NOVEMBER REVIEWED

PM041657 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Dec 82 p 3

[Unattributed article under the rubric "We Sum Up Results: November": "Final Lap of the Year"]

[Text] Industry is very close to the finish line of the 2d year of the 5-year plan. The results of the shock vigil in honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR are being summed up in labor collectives; and 879 associations and enterprises in industry, construction and transport and collectives of research, planning and design institutes and organizations have been deemed to be winners in the vigil. They set examples of economical, thrifty economic management, substantially improved the qualitative indicators of work and achieved high end results for the smallest possible outlay. Thus the leaders of socialist competition have made a weighty contribution to fulfilling this year's plan targets, and their labor was marked recently by red banners of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers the AUCCTU and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee.

The November plan for the total volume of production and the January-November targets were more than fulfilled. The increase in industrial output was 4.4 percent in November and 2.8 percent over the course of the 11 months. Labor productivity increased by 2 percent and accounted for 3/4 of the growth in industrial output.

Marked advances also occurred with regard to the quality of goods. Last month, 3,281 types of output were certified as matching up to the highest state standard, and the figure since the beginning of the year is 37,200. Today 6,940 industrial enterprises and associations mark 78,600 articles with the seal of quality. These account for 15.4 percent of the total volume of production.

The best results from the beginning of the year were achieved by associations and enterprises of the following unionwide and union republic ministries (the first column of figures shows the growth in the total volume of production, the second the increase in labor productivity and the third the percentage of plan fulfillment in January-November):

Ministry of Power Machine Building	110	110	103
Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable Farming	110	108	104
Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building	109	108	102
Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry	109	107	103
Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production	109	106	102
Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry	108	107	103
Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems	107	107	102
Ministry of Construction, Road and Municipal Machine Building	107	107	101

Ministry of the Medical Industry	107	106	100
Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry	106	106	103
Ministry of Machine Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances	106	105	102
Ministry of the Gas Industry	106	105	101

Six sectorial ministries failed to cope with the November sales plan: the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry (97 percent); the Ministry of the Coal Industry, the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production and the Ministry of the Medical Industry (98 percent) and the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry (99.1 percent). All but the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy fulfilled the 11-month targets. Many collectives that allowed a lag to occur in November still have time to rectify the situation and to finish the year in the way outlined in the plans and socialist pledges.

The national economy received 121 billion kilowatt-hours from the power industry workers last month and 1,234 billion since the start of the year. That is 3 percent more than was generated in the first 11 months of last year. But the leaders in the fuel and energy complex are the extractors of the "blue fuel:" they recovered 43.3 billion cubic meters of natural gas in November and, since the beginning of the year, they have extracted 455 billion cubic meters, topping last year's level by 8 percent.

The work of the coal industry is generally stabilizing. In January-November the miners produced 655 million tons of coal. The oilmen are lagging somewhat behind the projected targets, but vigorous measures are being taken in the sector to increase fuel extraction and eliminate the debt that has formed.

The difficult situation persists in ferrous metallurgy. The debts of USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy plants and combines in terms of finished rolled metal products have reached 4 million tons. Almost 5 million tons less pig iron and approximately the same quantity less steel have been produced. [sentence as published] Pipe rolling plants produced the planned quantity of steel pipes in terms of weight but not as much as planned in terms of length. Iron ore extraction in November was higher than planned, but if you count from the start of the year, there has been a shortfall of almost 3 million tons in its production. The blast furnace operators are short 3.5 million tons of coke. The reasons for this situation are the low level of production organization, violations of technological discipline and the frequent breakdowns and unplanned idle time of units because of serious shortcomings in equipment servicing and repair. The greatest lag has been allowed to occur by enterprises of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and Soyuzspetsstal [all-union production association for the production of high-grade steels]. A few days ago the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy Collegium examined and approved measures aimed at creating the conditions for smooth and efficient work by all process stages. Their implementation is being rigorously monitored.

In the chemical industry it is the enterprises producing motor vehicle tires and plant protection agents that are working most satisfactorily. But the situation regarding production of mineral fertilizers, sulfuric acid, plastics and synthetic resins and chemical fibers and yarns cannot be regarded as satisfactory: The targets for the production of these most important types of output were fulfilled neither in November nor in the 11 months.

The enterprises of the automotive industry and tractor and agricultural machine building distinguished themselves among the machine building sectors in November.

They fulfilled the plan targets for the production of the most important types of output. Instrument making industry collectives are working stably. Enterprises of the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems exceeded the 11-month target by 2 percent and manufactured R41 million of above-plan instruments, automation equipment and spare parts.

During the final part of the year it must be noted that the majority of machine building enterprises are firmly sustaining plan discipline in the production of consumer goods and are ensuring considerable increases in them. In particular, Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry plants increased production of color television sets by 15 percent and produced 4,400 of them over the plan. Ministry of General Machine Building enterprises coped with the targets for refrigerator production, and plants of the Ministry of Machine Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances (the head ministry that accounts for over half the annual refrigerator production) exceeded the November target by 1 percent but underfulfilled the 11-month plan.

More cotton and linen textiles and leather footwear than planned were manufactured in January-November. However, in November USSR Ministry of Light Industry enterprises failed to cope completely with the targets for the production of woolen and silken textiles.

The food sectors markedly increased the production of animal and vegetable oil and margarine, whole milk and edible fish products. Some 144,000 tons of granulated sugar were produced over the plan. During the month, 800,000 tons of meat and 200,000 tons of sausage products were produced from raw material from state resources.

Party and economic organs are now faced with the task of maintaining and heightening the shock mood in the leading collectives, analyzing the reasons for the laggards' failure and pulling up to the level of the leaders in socialist competition. It is especially important to carefully analyze the economic relations of enterprises and associations and to take effective measures to ensure that they were without disruption and strictly according to the plan right from the first days of the next year of the 5-year plan.

SHESTOPALOV ADDRESSES DISCUSSION ON MANUAL LABOR

PM041517 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Dec 82 Second Edition p 2

[Colonel of Engineering S. Borshchov, secretary of the USSR Defense Ministry Commission for devising a comprehensive program for reducing the use of manual labor at USSR Defense Ministry enterprises and organizations: "Increasing Labor Productivity"]

[Excerpt] An enlarged session of the USSR Defense Ministry commission for devising a comprehensive program for reducing the use of manual labor at USSR Defense Ministry enterprises and organizations has been held. The report by Marshal of Engineering Troops N. Shestopalov, chairman of the commission and USSR deputy minister of defense for construction and billeting of troops, and the speeches by the chairmen of commissions of the branches of USSR Armed Forces and of Main and Central Directorates provided an analysis of the work performed and defined tasks for accelerating the execution of a survey of manual labor and for drawing up comprehensive programs for reducing it.

BRIEFS

NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION -- Moscow December 30 TASS -- On the night of December 30-31 the Soviet Union reaches the level of production of half a trillion cubic metres of natural gas a year, the newspaper IZVESTIYA reports. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 30 Dec 82 LD]

U.S. PROFESSOR CITED ON SOVIET AGRICULTURE

PM031239 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 82 p 4

[M. Stoyanov article: "A Sane View of Things. An American Professor Exposes the Inventions of Western 'Sovietologists'"]

[Text] Throughout the history of Soviet power our country's enemies, in an attempt to conceal, distort and slander the achievements of the first socialist state, have resorted and still do resort to various kinds of insinuations. From myths about the "threat" supposedly issuing from the USSR to wild forecasts about its economic "collapse," the bourgeois mass media which carry out the social instructions of diverse special services indulge in particular bouts of anti-Soviet hysteria during our holiday celebrations. For this gives them a "pretext" not only for malicious gossip about the Soviet land, but also to simultaneously divert the attention of millions of the capitalist world's citizens from the mess the so-called "free world" is in.

And there is no shortage of such provocative utterances today, when Soviet people are preparing to greet their state's jubilee. So the objective, sober utterances about our reality by the representatives of the Western countries' science, culture and business world -- even by those who can in no way be suspected of socialist sympathies -- look that much more noteworthy against the background of this anti-Soviet blathering.

At the beginning of this week the U.S. newspaper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR published an article by Harry (Sheffer) in which he examines the question of the state of Soviet agriculture. Its author, professor of economics at Kansas University, is regarded as an expert on studies relating to the USSR and the other European socialist countries. And although it is not possible to agree with all his conclusions, nevertheless I believe the reader will be interested in acquainting himself with some of the thoughts expressed by the author.

(Sheffer) writes in the article that the mass circulation bourgeois newspapers and magazines, "which since 1917 have been trying to prove that the Soviet economic system is 'failing' have in the last few years concentrated their criticism on the agricultural sector of the Soviet economy." In response to those malignants who endeaver to pass off the desired state for the reality, he remarks that although unfavorable weather conditions have recently had an impact on the yield of grain crops in the USSR, "I maintain that this cannot be evaluated as a 'failure' and that given all the frankly acknowledged difficulties, the functioning of Soviet agriculture has for many years been much more worthy of respect than that with which it is usually assessed by U.S. experts."

Let us begin, he then writes, with the fact that there is no longer any opportunity to deny that "the USSR in a very short space of history has transformed itself from a country of formerly illiterate peasants into a state of scientists, engineers, doctors and cultural figures. Surely such an achievement would have been absolutely impossible without the foundation of an extremely successful agricultural sector."

And although the achievements of our country have, as is known, been determined by other factors also, and primarily by the entire gigantic development of industry within a historically unprecedented space of time, we will not reproach (Sheffer), who sincerely aspires to investigate the problem, for a certain one-sided approach.

He next compares the statistics on the harvest yields of prerevolutionary Russia with current yields, pointing out that today's rates of growth of agricultural production are many times higher with a considerably reduced labor force engaged in the USSR's agricultural sector. This comparison is not fortuitous, because some bourgeois "Sovietologists" endeavor to prove the complete reverse, in particular, focusing attention on that fact that as they put it, whereas before the revolution Russia was an exporter of grain, nowadays the USSR purchases grain abroad. (Sheffer) writes apropos of this that the czarist governments exported a proportion of the meager grain harvests from "rural areas suffering from hunger," thus dooming the peasant to even greater deprivations. West Europe annually imports much more grain than the Soviet Union, and this is presented as "an undoubted indication of the proper application and functioning of comparative advantages," the article's author remarks with irony. At the same time, the USSR acquires grain abroad to supplement its own extremely large supplies with the aim of improving the provision of food for the population. "The Soviet leadership," the U.S. professor writes, "has long been making an extremely successful effort to improve its citizens' rations, for the production of 1 pound of meat requires the expenditure of from 7.5 to 14 pounds of grain." This, in his opinion, primarily explains Soviet grain purchases abroad.

And, (Sheffer) remarks, although the Soviet leaders themselves acknowledge that the state of affairs is still far from satisfactory," it cannot be denied that they have achieved extremely substantial successes. Per capita meat consumption in the Soviet Union today exceeds the level of many 'free world' countries, such as, for example, Norway, Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Japan and others. Mild production is even more impressive, and the Soviet Union is today the world's biggest milk producer, outstripping the others very considerably."

How, from all this, "it is possible to draw the conclusion about failure it is difficult for anyone to understand if they are interested not in desperately trying to demonstrate how badly things are going for the Russians, but in drawing a relatively objective and accurate picture," (Sheffer) writes, and rightly asks: "Isn't it time we started to take a saner view of things?"

Indeed.

MINISTRY VIEWS LAND RECLAMATION SHORTCOMINGS

LD041750 Moscow Domestic Serivce in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] A session of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources has examined the critical comments concerning the preparations for the spring sowing which were made in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution adopted 30 December 1982. A serious lag has been permitted to come about in the preparation of land reclamation systems, in the repair of war control structures and in the conduct of soil and water saturation. The preparation of spraying and flooding machines pumps and back-up equipment is too slow.

The Collegium session thoroughly analyzed the state of affairs as regards preparations for the spring. Measures were outlined for a considerable speeding up of all work and the elimination of the lag which has been permitted to come about. The adopted program provides for completion of the preparation of the pool of machinery and tractors not later than 2 weeks before the commencement of the spring sowing.